

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

8-1984

Volume 13, Number 4

Post Amerikan

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Bloomington-Normal

25¢

POST AMERICAN

August, 1984

Vol. 13, No. 4

City
to buy
and close
West Side
Country Club p. 3

SINCE THEY CLOSED DOWN THE
GRAVEL PITS, WE COME TO
CITY HALL TO GET
COOL!



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BLOOMINGTON

Amtrack station, 1200 W. Front
The Back Porch, 402½ N. Main
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Bus Depot, 523 N. East
Common Ground, 516 N. Main
D. J.'s Variety, 297 N. Main
Front and Center Building
Law and Justice Center, W. Front
Lee Street (100 N.)
Main and Miller streets
Medusa's Adult World, 420 N. Madison
Mike's Market, 1013 N. Park
Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire
Nierstheimer Drugs, 1302 N. Main
Pantagraph (front of building),
301 W. Washington
The Park Store, Wood & Allin
People's Drugs, Oakland & Morrissey
Red Fox, 918 W. Market
Susie's Cafe, 602 N. Main
U.S. Post Office, 1511 E. Empire
(at exit)
U.S. Post Office, Center & Monroe
Wash House, 609 N. Clinton
Washington and Clinton streets
Withers Public Library (in front)

NORMAL

Alamo II, 319 North St. (in front)
Blue Dahlia Bookstore, 124 E. Beaufort
ISU University Union, 2nd floor
ISU University Union, parking lot
entrance
ISU Milner Library (entrance)
Mickey's, 111 E. Beaufort (in front)
Midstate Truck Plaza, U.S. 51 north
Mother Murphy's, 111½ North St.
North & Broadway, southeast corner
Record Service, Watterson Place
Redbird IGA, 310 S. Main
Upper Cut, 318 Kingsley
White Hen Pantry, 207 Broadway
(in front)

POST AMERIKAN

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The Post Amerikan is an independent community newspaper providing information and analysis that is screened out of or downplayed by establishment news sources. We are a non-profit, worker-run collective that exists as an alternative to the corporate media. Decisions are made collectively by staff members at our regular meetings.

We put out ten issues a year. Staff members take turns as "coordinator." All writing, typing, editing, photography, graphics, paste-up, and distribution are done on a volunteer basis. You are invited to volunteer your talents.

Most of our material and inspiration for material comes from the community. The Post Amerikan welcomes stories, graphics, photos, and news tips from our readers. If you'd like to join us call 828-7232 and leave a message on our answering machine. We will get back to you as soon as we can.

We like to print your letters. Try to limit yourself to the equivalent of two double-spaced typewritten pages. If you write a short, abusive letter, it's likely to get in print. Long, abusive letters, however, are not likely to get printed. Long, brilliantly written, non-abusive letters may, if we see fit, be printed as articles. Be sure to tell us if you don't want your letters printed.

An alternative newspaper depends very directly on a community of concerned people for existence. We believe that it is very important to keep a paper like this around. If you think so too, then support us through contributions and by letting our advertisers know you saw their ads in the Post Amerikan.

The deadline for submitting material for the next issue is August 23.

good numbers

Alcoholics Anonymous.....828-5049
American Civil Liberties Union.454-1787
CETA.....827-4026
Clare House (Catholic Workers).828-4035
Community for Social Action...452-4867
Connection House.....829-5711
Countering Domestic Violence...827-4005
Department of Children and
Family Services.....828-0022
Draft Counseling.....452-5046
Gay/Lesbian Information Line...829-2719
HELP (transportation for handi-
capped and senior citizens).828-8301
Illinois Dept. of Public Aid...827-4621
Illinois Lawyer Referral...800-252-8916
Kaleidoscope.....828-7346
Metropolitan Community Church..829-2719
Mid Central Economic Opportunity
Corporation.....829-0691
McLean County Health Dept.....454-1161
Mobile Meals.....828-8301
McLean County Center for
Human Services.....827-5351
National Health Care Services
(abortion ass't in Peoria)...691-9073
National Runaway Switchboard...
.....800-621-4000
in Illinois.....800-972-6004
Nuclear Freeze Coalition.....828-4195
Occupational Development
Center.....828-7324
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Project Oz.....827-0377
Rape Crisis Center.....827-4005
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Thanx

This issue is in your hands thanks to: Dave, Diana, Mark, Bobby, Have, Drue, Imogene, Russell, Kathy, Eumper, Nadene, Ken, Pink Bob, Dan, Diane, Deborah, Bill, Becky, Holly, Susan, Sue, Susie, Tom, Laurie D., Laurie H., Laurie S., J. T., Ralph, Stan, and Melissa (coordinator)--and others we probably forgot to mention.

Special thanx to Bob K. and Linc for their generous contributions to the Post.

Progress (1984 Style) Comes to the Pits

Get your air mattress out and fill up the cooler. It looks like this is going to be the last season for the West Side Country Club, also known as the Pit.

Located off west Market Street in Bloomington, the Country Club is an abandoned gravel pit filled with clear, cool water, and it has been a favorite swimming spot of west-siders for years. It's been a free space where you could take your six pack or joints, your inner tube and enjoy a day of swimming and fun in the sun without crowds, designated swimming areas, and lifeguards whistling at you.

It's also a home for lots of wildlife including birds, fish, turtles, muskrats, and beavers. In fact, I've had more bass fishing action there in one night than I've had at any of the local lakes in years.

So if swimming, fishing, boating, or just plain baking in the sun with a six pack is your favorite thing to do on a hot summer day, and you don't like crowds, hassles or cops of any type, then the Pit was the place for you.

I say was because it looks like an era is about to end. The long arms of government and progress have embraced us again, or more correctly, grabbed us by the collar and told us to move on.

At its June 25th meeting, the Bloomington City Council passed Resolution No. 1984 (how appropriate), "A Resolution Authorizing Eminent Domain Proceedings to Acquire Property for Storm Water Detention." In other words the city is buying the Pit and turning it into a flood control basin.

But whether the Pit is ruined or not, the city buying it means four things for sure...city fathers, city fences, city cops, and no swimming. Bill Vail says, "Miller Park is underutilized and not even paying for its lifeguards." That means no swimming.

He also says, "No more six packs, that's right." So much for the Country Club.

The city fathers have been uptight about the Pit for years. Sheriff Brienien tried to close it down as a peoples' country club a few years ago, but was unsuccessful. People kept stealing the "No Trespassing" signs.

And you just know it makes any official's skin crawl to think about all that unsupervised, uncontrolled activity going on so close to their homes and businesses. Just watch the Normal Council pass one unconstitutional ordinance after another.

Whether the fences that go up once the city buys the Pit stay there or not doesn't really matter. The city has an invisible fence that works much better at keeping most people out: the cops.

What better fun could a cop ask for on a hot summer afternoon than to go out to the Pit and roust "low-lives" doing nothing more dangerous than drinking a beer and sitting in the sun. It's a bored cop's dream. You get to throw your weight around and fondle your gun without taking any risks.

So, friends, we've taken another step across that asphalt parking lot toward City Council Heaven, where no one leaves home without their parade permit and 30 gallon water-tight waste container.

But don't let them keep you down. Enjoy your West Side Country Club for the rest of this summer. And who knows? Maybe, with wire cutter in hand, we'll find a way to enjoy it next year, too.

--Dave Nelson



Chuck, Bill, Roger, Brenda, Terry, and Les enjoy an afternoon at the pits.



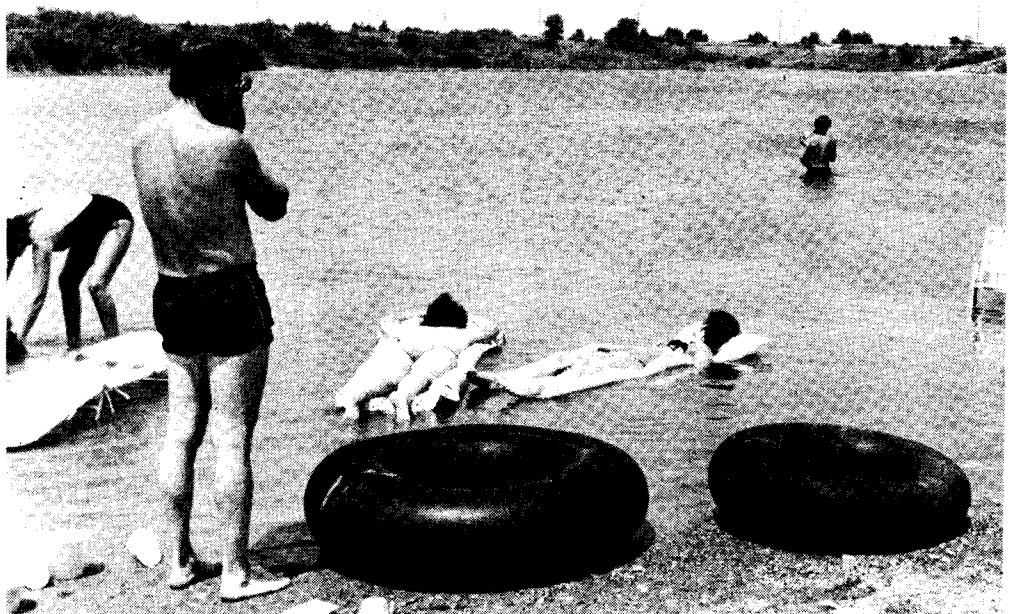
The pit's a tradition: this shot comes from summer 1980.

Guess why we need a flood control basin. Yes, that's right. It's because our city fathers and all their predecessors who are so concerned about our flooding basements, have paved over so much of the city that the run-off has nowhere to go but back up the sewer system into your basement.

Now there is divided opinion among city officials whether construction of this basin is going to screw up the Pit.

George Sweir, Director of Engineering and Water, thinks construction shouldn't hurt the wildlife or change the Pit much. City Manager Bill Vail says the water level will be lowered substantially.

These pit swimmers seemingly refused to have their faces photographed. Probably a rock band seeking refuge from the fans.



New sexual assault

As of July 1, I finally got my wish: rape ceased to exist in the state of Illinois. So did deviate sexual conduct, deviate sexual assault, incest, aggravated incest, indecent and aggravated indecent liberties with a child and contributed to the sexual delinquency of a child.

Unfortunately, the crimes still exist. It's just that they have been redefined, compacted, and revised. The names of the crimes have been changed to decrease the emotional impact on juries, physicians, and attorneys.

All the above crimes have been reclassified into four categories: criminal sexual assault with aggravating circumstance, criminal sexual assault, criminal sexual abuse with aggravating circumstance, and crim-

inal sexual abuse. They range in legal seriousness from a Class X felony to a Class A misdemeanor.

According to the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault, the new law has three purposes:

- To create one comprehensive law that recognizes that "rape" encompasses all types of sexual assault committed by both sexes against victims of both sexes and all ages;
- To increase convictions of sex offenders by creating uniform statutory elements and by providing flexibility in sentencing, depending on the seriousness of the sexual assault, the dangerousness of the offender, and the vulnerability of the victim;
- To define sexual assault in terms of the offender's behavior rather than the state of mind of the victim,

making prosecution for sexual assault consistent with that of other crimes and providing for more humane treatment of sexual assault victims.

Violent Crimes

One change the new law makes is that it removes sexual assault from the category of "sex crimes" (where things like prostitution and pandering are found) and puts them into the category of "crimes of great bodily harm" (like battery and aggravated assault). This will encourage people to think of sexual assault as a violent crime and not a sex crime.

The law removes the minimum age requirement of 14 that had previously existed in many sexual assault statutes altogether. There is no longer

The real sex abuse problems

Just in case you've been hoodwinked by police and media hype into thinking that the "gay sex ring" and the homos lurking in the bathroom are the only threats to area children, we thought we'd let you see where the real sex abuse problem in McLean County lies. These tiny items, usually tucked away at the bottom of pages or back with the obituaries and the traffic notes, appeared in the Pantagraph during the last month and a half. You may have missed them. After all, there were no banner headlines, no two-column photos, no extensive interviews with the victims and the victims' relatives, no task force investigations, no tie-ins with recent legislation. Even the

language is bland and euphemistic--"morals charge" and "indecent liberties," instead of "the use of teenage boys for sexual purposes." "Sex" and "abuse" are hardly mentioned; the words "heterosexual" or "heterosexuality" are conspicuously absent from the reports. You'll notice that many of the victims are a lot younger than the teenage males in the "sex ring" case and the Pontiac High School incident. Yet the victimization of these young girls seems to have aroused little concern and attention from crusading journalists, vigilant police, and watchdog citizen groups.

Court summary

B-N man pleads guilty to sex offense charge

By BOB HOLLIDAY
Pantagraph staff

A Bloomington man with a prior sex crime record, pleaded guilty in McLean County Circuit Court yesterday to indecent liberties with a child.

Herbert G. Patterson, 59, whose address was listed as 25 Park City South, could receive 90 days in jail and four years' probation for the July 1983 incident which police said involved a 7-year-old girl.

McLean County Circuit Judge Wayne C. Townley Jr. ordered a presentence investigation for Patterson.

The plea agreement specifies that Patterson, who was on probation before for a sex offense, have mental health counseling.

6-14-84

Indecent liberties charge filed

Michael Waldron, 32, of 202 Willow Creek Village, was charged yesterday with two counts of taking indecent liberties with a 13-year-old girl during May in Bloomington.

He posted \$500 to appear in court July 7.

6-12-84

Morals charge filed against county man

A 31-year-old man appeared in McLean County Circuit Court yesterday on morals charges stemming from an incident involving a 12-year-old girl.

William Wilson, 31, of 218 Willow Creek Village posted a \$5,000 personal recognizance bond to appear in court June 22 on a charge of taking indecent liberties with a child.

McLean County sheriff's police said the charges stem from an incident at his home May 21.

5-30-84

Indecent liberties charges filed

A 23-year-old McLean man was charged yesterday with two counts of taking indecent liberties with a minor in December 1983 and January 1984.

According to McLean County sheriff's police, Scott T. Pitts had sexual contact with an 11-year-old girl at those times. He was arrested yesterday on a warrant.

Pitts posted a \$5,000 personal recognizance bond to appear Aug. 17 on the charges.

7-20-84

Man charged with indecent liberties

A Bloomington man was charged yesterday with taking indecent liberties with a child, according to Bloomington police reports.

Richard Lawson, 44, of 203 S. Robinson St., posted \$500 for a July 31 court appearance, police said.

He was arrested yesterday on a warrant in connection with incidents at a Bloomington residence involving a 15-year-old girl, police said.

7-14-84

Morals charges net fine, probation

A Bloomington man charged with public indecency was fined \$200 and sentenced to a year's probation and four days in jail, according to records on file yesterday in the associate division of McLean County Circuit Court.

Robert W. Bailey, 42, of 541 W. Grove St. was given credit for two days already served.

The original charge of indecent exposure was amended by the court and a charge of contributing to the sexual delinquency of a child was dismissed in a plea agreement.

Bailey was charged in a March 10 incident in Bloomington involving two girls.

7-4-84

Man charged with indecent liberties

A 19-year-old Cooksville man was charged with taking indecent liberties with a child Friday stemming from an incident involving a 14-year-old girl at a Chenoa residence in late May, according to McLean County sheriff's police reports.

The man was being held in McLean County Jail pending filing of formal felony charges through the state's attorney's office.

Ex-officer convicted in sex case

By MARK PICKERING
Pantagraph staff

A McLean County jury deliberated more than 11 hours before finding a former Bloomington police officer guilty yesterday of charges that he sexually abused two girls in 1982 and 1983.

Robert A. "Andy" Dunlap, 36, will be sentenced at a later date, following a presentence investigation.

Dunlap, of 613 W. Locust St., Bloomington, was convicted of two counts of taking indecent liberties with a child, a Class 1 felony, carrying a sentencing range of four to 15 years in prison, or probation.

Acquitted of third charge

The jury acquitted Dunlap of a third charge. He was acquitted of a fourth count on Thursday, following a directed verdict by Circuit Judge James A. Knecht.

The jury convicted Dunlap, who showed no reaction when the verdicts were read, of fondling the girls in a lewd manner in December 1982 and February 1983. The girls were both 12 years old at the time of the incidents, which occurred at Dunlap's residence.

Man faces charge in sexual assault

A 25-year-old Bloomington man was charged with criminal sexual assault yesterday in connection with an incident involving a 17-year-old girl in an apartment on Bloomington's east side, Bloomington police reports said.

The man was in McLean County Jail last night pending filing of formal charges with the state's attorney's office. That action is expected Monday.

7-22-84

Man sentenced for sex offenses

A Robbins man was sentenced yesterday in the associate division of McLean County Circuit Court for two counts of contributing to the sexual delinquency of a minor.

Jeremiah C. Chiestder, 20, was sentenced to 10 days in McLean County Jail, with credit for 10 days served.

The original felony charges of attempted rape and two counts of deviate sexual assault were dismissed earlier in the general division on a motion by the state's attorney's office to allow the case to proceed as a misdemeanor.

Chiestder was charged with attacking an 18-year-old Illinois State University coed Sept. 8 in a first-floor laundry room in ISU's Walker Hall.

6-1-84

law in review

a minimum age the offender must be before he or she can be charged with sexual assault.

Yes, I said he or she. The law also removes the gender requirement of male for sexual assault offenders. It also removes the gender requirement of female for victims. The State of Illinois, in all its wisdom, has finally acknowledged what the anti-rape movement has known for 10 years: anyone can be an offender and anyone can be a victim.

Age of Consent

The law also attempts to acknowledge that sometimes people under the age of 18 like to have sex. If the accused is under 17 and the victim is 9-16, the use of force or threat of force must be proven before sexual conduct is a crime. If the accused is over 17 and the victim is 13-16, and the accused is no more than 5 years older than the victim, again force or threat of force must be proven. In the old statutes, a person contributed to a child's sexual delinquency anytime there was sexual contact with a child under 17. In effect, the new law changes the age of consent to 16 in all cases and acknowledges peer sex and sexual experimentation as something other than an abhorrence.

The new law runs to something like 80 pages or so, and to print the entire statute would take up all the space in the Post Amerikan for the next 5 months. So instead of printing the exact text, which is available through the State, below is a brief synopsis of each new crime:

--Criminal Sexual Assault may be proved in one of three ways: 1) sexual penetration by force or threat of force; 2) sexual penetration and the victim was unable to understand the nature of the act or was unable to give effective consent; or 3) sexual penetration with a victim under 18 years of age and the accused was a parent or grandparent whether by whole blood, half blood or adoption. Criminal Sexual Assault is a Class 1 felony (4-5 years mandatory imprisonment in most situations).
--Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault may be charged if the accused commit-

ted Criminal Sexual Assault and any one of 5 aggravating circumstances existed: 1) accused used a dangerous weapon; 2) accused caused bodily harm; 3) accused placed victim in life-endangering situation; 4) accused committed another felony; or 5) victim was 60 years of age or older. Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault may also be charged if there is sexual penetration (no force) with a victim under 13 years of age. Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault is a Class X felony (6-30) years mandatory imprisonment).

--Criminal Sexual Abuse may be charged if the accused: 1) committed an act of sexual conduct by force or threat of force; or 2) committed sexual conduct and the victim was unable to understand the nature of the act or was unable to give effective consent. Criminal Sexual Abuse is a Class A misdemeanor (up to 1 year in county jail).

--Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse may be charged if the accused committed Criminal Sexual Abuse and any one of 2 aggravating circumstances existed: 1) accused used a dangerous weapon; or 2) accused caused great bodily harm. Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse may also be charged if there is sexual conduct (no force): 1) with a victim under 13 years of age when the act was committed; or 2) with a victim under 18 years of age and the accused was a parent or grandparent whether by whole blood, half blood or adoption. Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse is a Class 2 felony (3-7 years imprisonment or probation).

Marital Exemption

The proposed bill contained no marital exemption--that is, just because a person happened to be married to the offender was not an excuse or a defense for sexual assault. The legislature, much to no one's surprise, couldn't handle that one. So the new law allows for a spouse to charge a spouse only with Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault, and only if the complaint is filed within 30 days of the crime. Ya win some and ya lose some.

One that was won was the acknowledgment that intrafamilial sexual assault

has some pretty specific and special problems, both in regard to the offender and the victim. The new law provides for probation for family members if the family member who is charged agrees to participate in a counseling program for at least 2 years and agrees to participate in any plan the court may decide is appropriate, which may include things like removal from the home, limited contact with the victim, continued financial support, restitution to the victim.

The new law also realizes that sometimes minors do not want their parents or guardians to know that they have been sexually assaulted and that it is the right of the minor to decide who to tell and when. For this reason a minor may now seek evidence collection and treatment at a hospital without parental consent.

One final thing that the new law does is redefine the use of the consent defense. Under the old statutes, an offender could use the defense that the victim consented to almost every situation. And most defendants used this defense whenever possible. This is the defense which led to rape victims being dragged over the judicial coals in a courtroom, which led to the use of sexual innuendo being the issue at hand. The new law provides that the consent defense be used only in cases where force or threat of force is an issue. The accused must, in addition, prove that there was a freely given consent to the sexual conduct in question. The law also states that submission or lack of resistance by the victim resulting from the use of force or threat of force by the accused does not constitute consent.

Whether or not the new law will do all that its supporters hope it will do will remain to be seen. There are no case laws or precedents for this statute yet. It does not answer all the questions and concerns that people have in the areas of sexual assault and abuse, but it does attempt to answer some of them.

And maybe the next time the statute has to be revised it will be because rape really has ceased to exist in Illinois. (I doubt it, too, but it's a nice thought.)


--Deborah Wiatt

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Workshop on new sexual assault law

The Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault (ICASA) and the Rape Crisis Center of McLean County will sponsor a workshop to teach people about the new law regarding sexual assault and abuse. The workshop will be held August 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Bloomington Public Library's Community Room. Judy Libby, ICASA staff attorney and president of the Central Illinois Women's Bar Association, will speak about the law. A film that was made by ICASA specifically for training in this law will be shown. The film is called "A Law for Victims" and is narrated by Betty Thomas from "Hill Street Blues." Members of the Rape Crisis Center will speak about victims and offenders and how the law will help answer their needs.

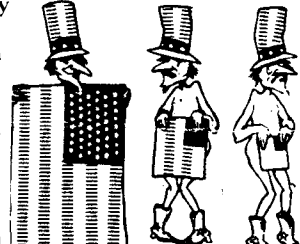
The workshop is open to anyone who is interested in the new sexual assault law. Registration is necessary. To register, call PATH at 827-4005 and ask for the Rape Crisis Center. The workshop is free of charge, but donations will be accepted for materials and lunch.

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Witness for Peace--

Nicaragua, according to Ronald Reagan, is our newest enemy and threat in the hemisphere; a bastion of Soviet trickery and repression-in-the-making.

But my impressions are quite different: flying into the airport--which Reagan has identified in "secret spy photos" numerous times--a few soldiers stood guard, while three small tanks seemed to rust on the runway's edge; these were all the signs present of a military build-up. No MIG's, no big red-star-shining transport planes, no barracks full of Soviet and Cuban advisors.

Driving into the capitol, Managua, one passes tin-roofed shacks, squatters on the roadside, a country poor, barely surviving after the ravages of earthquakes and bloody civil war--not the center of a new booming export industry called "revolution."

I went to Nicaragua as part of an ecumenical Christian group, called "Witness for Peace." A year and a half ago, a group of North Carolina Christians were visiting Nicaragua in Jalapa, a city on the northern border near Honduras. As long as they were in the area, the "contras"--CIA-funded counter-revolutionaries--refrained from attacking Jalapa.

The North Carolinians concluded that as long as they, U. S. citizens, were in the areas the "contras" refrained from attacking, fearing that harm to U.S. citizens would hinder CIA support. The group then began to organize "Witness for Peace" trying to bring U.S. citizens to Nicaragua, and the Jalapa in particular, hoping to slow the escalating "contra" violence.

A year ago, the first large peace vigil, with over 150 Americans took place. Since then, numerous smaller regional groups have been in the area. My group, which included almost 200 Americans from all the states, marked the anniversary of the first large group a year ago.

I spent ten days in Nicaragua as part of "Witness for Peace." Besides traveling to Jalapa, where we stayed with local families, held a vigil, and helped with a reforestation project. We also met with government leaders, opposition figures, church leaders, and the U. S. Embassy in Managua.

Here are a few reflections, from a variety of settings, on this trip to

Nicaragua. Throughout it all, I saw glaring contradictions to Reagan's assertions about this tiny nation. Impoverished, small, and still rebuilding from difficult years; a country struggling to survive is what I saw. Although I saw problems within the country, including the possibility of future repression against the opposition, there is now an atmosphere of openness in the nation.

Whatever fear there is in the country is not coming from internal sources, but from the threats of an external, U.S. controlled attack, and economic strangulation. In this nation that Reagan calls Marxist, I saw little and heard little of Marxism, but I did feel a strong sense of nationalism, and a country unified to protect its own integrity.

Learning Nicaragua

Before traveling to the border, we spent intensive days in Managua, learning about the nation and meeting various people. U. S. intervention is no new thing in Nicaraguan history, for the U. S. Marines were frequently in Nicaragua in the 1920's and 30's. Augusto Sandino, who was eventually killed by the Marines, led an agrarian-rooted revolt in the 1930's, but the U.S. favored the leadership of the Somoza family, who maintained themselves in a bloody and greedy dictatorship.

Finally, in 1979, after a hard-fought revolution, the Sandinistas--who named themselves after the 1930's leader--formed a coalition of peasant, labor, religious, and small business groups to overthrow Somoza. Since then this tiny nation has struggled to rebuild itself.

Besides attending lectures and visiting with pro-government figures, we also met with opposition voices, including the Catholic Church. The Church has divided into those sympathetic to the revolution, often called the "popular" church, and the traditional hierarchical church. A Catholic bishop in Managua highlighted the division, saying that things were "worse" since the revolution. He criticized the government for not

A visit to

being concerned about the people's spiritual well-being, only their material, saying that this concern for physical well-being "is to treat the people like monkeys."

Terrorist?

We also met with Robert Gambel, the secretary of the U. S. Ambassador, who defended the Reagan record. When asked how our government can morally justify equipping and training assassins and torturers, Gambel responded, "one man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter." When challenged that the U.S. has been able to produce no evidence for its claim that Nicaragua is exporting revolution to El Salvador, Gambel scoffed at the "Witness for Peace" group, first telling them that the evidence was "secret," so therefore he couldn't reveal it, and then calling the group "naive" for questioning the State Department!

Besides meeting with Gambel and the Archbishop's office, others in our group met with the election commission, which is supervising national elections planned for the fall, Miskito Indian leaders, and opposition labor and newspaper figures.

Obviously, the Sandinistas do not have 100% popular support, and have some problems respecting the freedom of those who disagree, being particularly critical of labor unions that have not aligned themselves with the Sandinista labor federation.

There have been reports of harassment of these groups and censorship of opposition newspapers. At the same time, there is not a long record of torture and imprisonment of the opposition, as was common in Somoza's day. And throughout the capitol, one sees billboards for the various opposition parties, all competing for votes in the fall election.

As we split into smaller groups for the various visits, I had the opportunity to tour the rehabilitation services which the new government has set up. In the homes of former Somoza colonels, training centers have been set up for the physically handicapped and blind and deaf individuals, people who were formerly consigned to begging in the streets. Polio was rampant before 1979, but in the past two years, using vaccination, the Sandinistas have virtually eradicated the disease. Former disease victims, along with those wounded by the "contras" are now rehabilitated and taught new economic skills, including toy-making, electronic repair, macrame, and tailoring. In an average of 6 to 9 months an individual is returned to productive work in society. This was particularly impressive to me, seeing a society obviously so poor striving to offer something to some of its poorest and usually outcast members, offering them a new future.

Jacapa

After too many endless meetings and long discussions which ran late into the night, we finally headed for Jalapa, near the Honduran border. While there, for two nights, we held a vigil and saw some of the damage from "contra" attacks.

Those were difficult nights, as endless gunfire filled the air.

In Jalapa, I stayed with a family which might be characterized as "middle class" by local standards, though quite poor by typical U.S. expectations. The father was an auto mechanic and head of the neighborhood association. The family had tile floors, a flush toilet in their outhouse, a t.v., and other smaller things which distinguished their house from their neighbors' dirt-floored homes. The gunfire at night was not necessarily from the

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Nicaragua

"contras," but from "Los Pueblos Armados," as they called themselves. These were local people, armed and uniformed, who volunteered to defend their own villages from attack. Looking at this mish-mash of mixed guns and assorted uniforms, which passed for military defense at this active border, I found it even harder to believe Reagan's claims that this country was guilty of exporting guns and revolution to El Salvador. It was odd to feel comfortable with 14-year-olds walking around with rifles, but I did not get a feeling of an oppressive military. Instead, I saw a people trying to defend themselves from an outside aggressor.

While in Jalapa we held a vigil beneath a mountain which bordered Honduras. From there, we traveled back to Managua, passing troops and a military alert. The "contras" have given up their tactic of attacking border towns, and now have infiltrated the countryside, terrorizing smaller towns and rural villages.

We visited Ocotal, a town where, on June 1, the "contras" had attacked such civilian targets as the radio station, grain and tobacco storage areas, and had also targeted a new day-care center. Since they are maneuvering further inland, the "contras" strong-arm food from the local population, offering U.S. dollars (\$50 for a chicken) for food--or death to those who refuse. A Jalapa woman told us how her 9 and 13 year old son and daughter were kidnapped, their eyes gouged out, bodies painted blue, and left to die. Torture and brutal dismemberments, all tactics to terrorize and demoralize the local population, are the "contra's" ways.

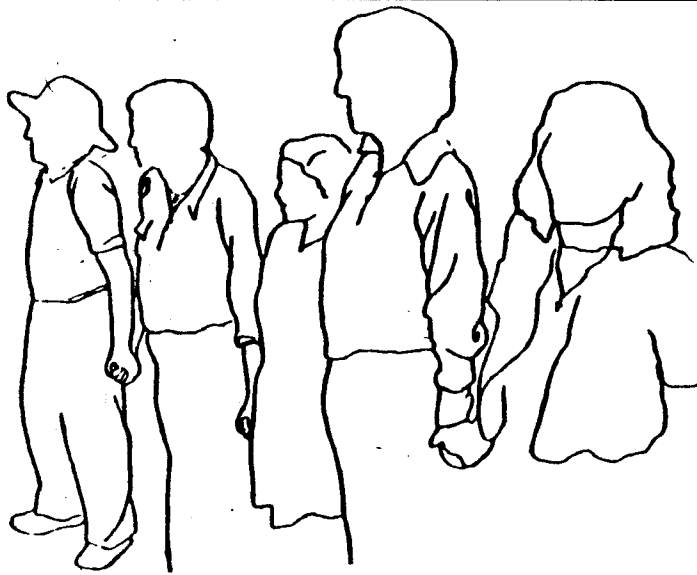
Returning to Managua, we passed a local bus we had seen a few days earlier that was now a burnt-out hulk. The passengers had not been seen or heard of since the bus was attacked.

Back in the U.S.A., it is hard to believe that our country has targeted Nicaragua for harassment and destruction. Yes, there are legitimate questions about where Nicaragua is going and about its alignment with the Soviet bloc. But it is also a possibility that Nicaragua is taking that route because it has no other way to go, particularly when its neighbor to the north is so vicious. There is a sincere attempt for change, and to include and care for all the people, a definite change from the self-aggrandizement of Somoza.

The Sandinistas have made massive improvements in health, in education, and on the status of women. Before the revolution, 13% of the population was literate. Today, 80% are literate and 99% of the children attend school regularly, including girls. Formerly, a poor person was lucky to get one year of schooling, and even that was rare for girls.

The Sandinistas are young, inexperienced, and willing to admit they've made mistakes. But none of their errors justifies the Reagan Administration's unauthorized, secret war on such a tiny, impoverished nation of less than three million people.

--Kari Sandhaas



Wait, doc, could you please check 'may substitute'?

Before you leave your doctor's office, take a look at the prescription he wrote for you. In the lower left corner, there are two boxes, labeled "May Substitute" and "Do Not Substitute."

Make sure the doctor checked "May Substitute."

This allows the pharmacist to substitute a generic drug for the brand-name drug the doctor may have specified. The generic drug is exactly the same chemical. But it's often a great deal cheaper.

A recent personal experience emphasized the importance of scrutinizing my doctor's prescription.

He told me he was prescribing Vibramycin, an antibiotic, and warned me that it would cost a dollar a day. By the time I got a chance to look at what he'd written, he of course was gone, off to the next patient (who had, like me, also been waiting an hour and a half before seeing the doctor).

The prescription said "Do Not Substitute."

The doctor had already made me feel that I was wasting his precious time asking questions about my condition. I had to consciously resist feeling like a bothersome, troublesome patient. (How do doctors learn to turn even a usually assertive person into a quivering heap of uncertainty?) I had to push myself to ask the nurse about substituting.

Grudgingly (I felt) the doctor authorized the change to "May Substitute." He passed the word back that I wouldn't save much money anyway on this particular drug.

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Even though you're often going to be rattled when you leave the doctor's office, try to remember to look at that "May Substitute" box. You might save enough to pay for the five minutes you just spent with the doctor.

--Mark Silverstein

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Everything they tell you about "The Revenge" is true. Even after two weeks back in the states, memories of our trip to Mexico live on in our minds and tortured tushes. Only with a very recent Rx from the health center have we exorcised the bacterial invaders and mastered our bowels once more. But, before I recount the graphic details of our Mexican sojourn, a brief summary of how Bill and Becky Gringo found their way to Ixtapa, tropical paradise.

As the perfect wedding gift, my more-than-generous mother wanted to give us a honeymoon such as any couple would dream, with options on Jamaica, Mazatland, and Ixtapa. Hearing that there were ruins to be found not far from there, we chose the latter, a lovely resort town on the Pacific, noted for fishing and water sports, and a frequent prize on "The Price Is Right." Neither of us considers ourselves resort types, but we were willing to struggle through the experience just this once.

However, after making our decision known, we endured countless recitals on disease, poverty, squalor, police states, and provincial prejudice, real and imagined. Bill and I, being the liberal types that we are, withheld judgment pending our own investigation. Thus, here follow the events and impressions of eight days in "paradise."

Saturday, June 30:

The flight from O'Hare lasted about 3½ hours, becoming increasingly rough as we flew further into Mexico. At 35,000 feet, we were flying near magnificent towering cumulus, the pilot tiptoeing around the nastiest-looking storm cells. As we began to descend, the pitching and rolling increased to stomach-wrenching propor-

tions. Glimpses of rugged mountain terrain, then seething murky ocean, could be seen through the rain-lashed window. Bill found the experience thrilling, but I was more than happy to feel terra firma under the plane's wheels.



We made a quick dash through the warm deluge to the airport to wait in air-conditioned discomfort in line with fellow travelers for solemn Mexican officials to check our documents. Watching the prior week's tourists board the plane to return stateside, I wondered if they left with fond memories or just relief. Our baggage was soon loaded on a vintage bus for the dreary seven-mile journey from the airport to our tour members' various hotels in Ixtapa.

The bus dropped several of us at the Camino Real Hotel, a beautiful resort nestled in a secluded cove separated from metropolitan Ixtapa by mountainous jungle and rock-treacherous shoreline. Although perhaps a mere couple of miles from town, we were isolated from traffic, commerce, and reality. We checked in, gratefully found our room, and waited until morning's light to explore. Welcome to sunny Mexico!

Sunday, July 1

Upon waking, we walked onto our balcony and saw our first clear view of the ocean, the beach, and our surroundings. And it was truly beautiful--lush flowering vegetation, the surf breaking against the sand and rocks below, fluffy white clouds. After dressing, we caught the elevator to the lobby to acquaint ourselves with what the hotel had to offer.

We breakfasted at the Solarium, one of three restaurants in the hotel, located by the swimming pools. Our meal of fresh fruits and scrambled eggs with dried beef came to nearly \$15 in equivalent pesos. Thus came my first shock: while the exchange rate is good right now, it takes a lot of pesos to actually buy anything. Every American dollar was worth 180 pesos, but entrees of 1000 pesos were the rule rather than the exception. Then there was the IVA, an automatic tax of 15% assessed on almost everything. Culture shock took me, and fear of this new, foreign world set in.

Pantagraph blows big

One staple of big city newspapers is the society page--you know, the kind that chronicles the foibles of the idle rich and the power brokers, as well as the junior exec-types who eagerly carry their bags with the hope of one day being allowed into the inner circles.

It is, unfortunately, one thing the Pantagraph does not have. Just think of the comic relief you could get, taking a break from scanning the classifieds to learn of the latest faux pas committed at last weekend's party by some sleazy real estate developer who has found himself on the outs with the A-crowd because word has circulated that his bubble is going to be burst by the bank foreclosure squad and he wasn't a big enough big shot after all.

Well, if the Pantagraph did provide such a service, we could have all been treated to the goings-on at the newspaper management's own contribution to this season's calendar.

According to reliable reports reaching our society editor's desk, the recent fete to honor new publisher John Goldrick at the paper's offices was quite a bash. But we can't really tell if it qualified as THE social event of the season, because our reports come from within the lower level staff (translation: those who do the work) who, it should come as no surprise, were not invited.

Too bad. That means we won't know the truly important details, like when so-and-so accidentally dipped so-and-so's tie in the avocado spread when he was not paying attention because he was trying to sneak a glance down the front of so-and-so's wife's low-cut dress while she was bending down to whisper the latest gossip to so-and-so about what so-and-so and so-and-so did at the club last night...

But from the reports we do have, the Pantagraph management spared no quarter in showing a select group of local movers and shakers that in spite of occasional nasty articles written by upstart reporters the paper really does want to suck up to the business community. The bash even prompted an appearance by Peter Thieriot, outgoing publisher and still chairman of the board, who long ago decided that he preferred San Francisco to Bloomington after all and hasn't been seen in so long that one unconfirmed report said he had to stop at the Clark station and ask directions to his newspaper.

Anyway, they held their party in the early evening on the building's second floor, which apparently is also the time and place where the reporters, printers and low-level editors experience one of the busiest parts of the daily routine. Not to worry; a great opportunity to show the bour-

geois bunch how hard their loyal employees work. The word also reportedly came down from above that the staff should be on their best behavior, courteous and well dressed, hair combed and the like, while the partygoers could wander through the newsroom and backshop spilling drinks and making quaint patronizing comments.

Meanwhile the nearby party room was reportedly graced with a full spread, including booze, caviar, a big fish that you dig the flesh out of with little forks while it stares up at you through an olive stuck in its eye socket, and a string quartet playing soothing sounds like you might hear at a wake.

While the rank and file was not invited, we also hear the employees were forbidden from entering the vending machine room or even the rest rooms in that part of the building because that would have been coming just a bit too close to rubbing elbows with the creme de la creme. Well, there has to be some social distinction...

But the coup de maitre seems to have come in planning the after-set for an even more select group of guests at Bloomington Country Club. According to our reports, the crystal (you know, drink glasses) at BCC wasn't quite up to snuff for this occasion, so they had some shipped via Federal Express from Chicago. How de rigueur...

"Paradise"

summer vacation

Obviously we needed the mid-afternoon orientation that was to be provided by our tour representative. Tour rep Michael was young, charming, and almost sinisterly reassuring. He handed each couple mimeographed sheets of suggestions, maps, and info, then sat down to fill us in on our temporary home.

Americans are considered rich by Mexican standards, making us fair game for street vendors, unscrupulous taxi drivers, even the maids in the hotel. Nothing of value was to be left unattended in our room; safety deposit boxes at the desk were highly recommended. He suggested that since we'd collect many clunky bits of Mexican coinage, basically worthless, the maid or porter would welcome it to supplement her meager salary. The average male worker makes \$5 per 8-hour shift, and women earn even less.

The water in the hotel was purified, so it was safe to drink anywhere within the complex. However, restaurants and other facilities in town never bother, so drinking water, ice cubes, unpeelable fresh fruits and vegetables were off limits. Refrigeration was the exception as well; thus salad dressings with mayonnaise base were to be avoided.

Milk is not pasteurized in Mexico, so problems with butter, cheese and milk were discussed. The hotels make every attempt to keep their visitors healthy, but in town what a native can stomach daily could be a tourist's nightmare.

The language barrier was most frightening to me. The hotel personnel in contact positions were mostly bilingual, with occasional excursions into gestures and sign language. Michael warned that others, taxi drivers included, understood English at their convenience. Thus, any transaction should be fully agreed upon before its undertaking. This was to be most important with cabbies, who were notorious for fleecing tourists.

There were other suggestions made to insure a safe and happy vacation, but the best was to relax and have fun. Thus reassured, we were introduced to local tour guides who had excursions to town, Ixtapa Island, fishing charters and other trips to offer. Bill and I signed up for a bus tour of resort town Ixtapa and its sister city Zihuatanejo for Monday, and a boat ride to the island on Thursday for a day of swimming, snorkeling, and seashelling.

The rest of Sunday we spent honeymooning, walking hand-in-hand on the beach, taking pictures, eating dinner on our balcony, then retiring early to be ready for our first taste of real Mexican life.

Monday, July 2

Bill woke feeling queasy around the edges, but since he wasn't really sick, we ate a light breakfast and went down to the beach, hoping that the sun would bake out any illness. Bill even ventured into the ocean though the surf was very rough. Knowing that palefaces such as we would burn in a very short time, we liberally used sunscreen, and even then did not stay out long, returning to the room for a siesta before our scheduled bus tour.

By the time for the tour, however, Bill was hot to the touch, and while not nauseated, his stomach felt iffy. But we had already paid for the trip, so we joined the tour and set out to see the sights. Jose, the native guide, was a well of information, filling us in not only on the region but also on Mexican reality.

The inflation rate in Mexico is 3% per month, or an annual total of 35%. The common worker makes little more than 50¢ an hour. A diet of tortillas and beans is quite normal, with meat and milk a luxury. As we drove through Zihuatanejo, Jose pointed out one of the palatial residences of the Mexico City police chief, Arturo Durazo, who is presently being held in Los Angeles pending extradition back to Mexico to face charges of extortion, tax evasion, and armament smuggling. The civil service pay that he receives is 40,000 pesos a month, or about \$200, yet Durazo blatantly lives beyond these means. We were told that his son was impressed by Studio 54 in New York, so Durazo had a duplicate built for him at their home in Mexico City. Durazo's "house" in Zihuatanejo is a replica of the Parthenon.

The last part of the tour was reserved for shopping in Zihua. As the bus wound its way through the narrow streets, our fellow tourists were amused to see scrawny pigs wandering around, hindering traffic and rummaging for garbage. "They are the sanitation system," Jose told us. "During the day they wander, but they know where to go at night." Since all manner of filth found its way into the gutter, human feces included, the idea of pork chops became most unappealing.

When we reached the shopping area of the city, Bill and I dutifully wandered, but neither of us was enthusiastic. This was not the tourist area where prices were fixed and shops quaint. This was where the natives lived and did business. Bins held cheap plastic products, from rain bonnets to plates to ugly imported junk. It is considered bad form not to haggle, but neither of us had the desire to buy their poor little treasures. Children no more than six or seven constantly hawked necklaces and trinkets. We just walked around, avoiding rotting fruit and the myriad flies. Bill made the observation that movies like *Indiana Jones* took you to exotic places without having to smell them, for the stench at times was overpowering. By the time we were to return to the bus for the trip back, we were grateful to leave the squalor that is everyday life in so many places in Mexico.

Upon reaching the hotel, Bill was very hot to the touch, and all he wanted to do was lie on the bed and groan, so I went down to the restaurant alone where I dined on steak and felt very sad--that Bill was sick, that I was alone, that my vision of exotic and quaint Mexico had been dealt such a shattering blow.

(NEXT: soldiers in the streets, crabs in the corridors, and the perils of Mexican pizza.)

--RAF (with some recall from B.S.)

bucks on bash

All was not a total loss for the slighted employees, however. It seems the management had planned for a lot more people at the preliminary bash, but several invitees failed to show. Maybe they were too embarrassed at the realization that they belong to a club that sets a table with inferior crystal.

Whatever the reason for the no-shows, the newspaper management was left with a lot of uneaten food after the festi-

vities moved to the country club. According to our reports, the employees were then invited to partake of the scraps by nervous executives of the personnel department who were apparently trying to pretend they had planned to do that all along.

Maybe the invitations got lost in the mail.

--Emilee Post

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Man-boy love not the evil it's made out to be

Post Note: In light of the recent brouhaha about the so-called "gay sex ring" in McLean County and the incident of sexual abuse at Pontiac High School (see Post, v. 13, #3), it seemed appropriate to take a closer look at the issue of sexual interaction between older males and younger men. The following review of a study on the subject presents a lot of evidence that the public hysteria about man-boy relations is based on fear and misunderstanding. The study draws a number of conclusions that many Americans simply don't want to hear--which is a good reason to print this review.

Theo Sandfort. The Sexual Aspects of Paedophile Relations. Amsterdam, 1982.

The author, a social psychologist at the State University of Utrecht in the Netherlands, believes that previous research on adult-child sexual interaction assumed "that in every paedosexual contact the adult misuses his superiority and that the contact is an unpleasant experience for the child." Thus Sandfort set out to answer simple, "Can a sexual contact with an adult be a positive experience for the child?"

Sandfort chose to study boys who were involved in current sexually-expressed relationships with an adult. Age was critical: "Because it was necessary to deal with young people who already had sufficient concentration and cognitive capabilities, the minimum age was set at 11 years. . . . But because the younger the child the greater the problem society sees in his paedosexual contacts, an attempt was made to find as many of the children as possible under 14."

The boys and men were found, for the most part, through various workgroups of the NVSH (the Netherlands Society for Sexual Reform). Its National Pedophile Workgroup has chapters in major Dutch cities.

Family acceptance

The sample differs in many ways from

what one would expect in a less sex-tolerant society. Membership in the NVSH is one. More revealing, seven of the boys' families accepted the sexual aspects of their children's friendships with older men, and three even helped gain their children's confidence to participate in the study.

The 25 boys ranged in age from 10.9 to 16.1 (mean 13.4). Eight were pre-pubescent, six pubescent and eleven postpubescent. The 20 men were 26 to 66 years old (mean 39). Twenty-three boys lived at home with one or both parents, 16 with both parents.

Central to the work is its interviewing method. Rather than pose an arbitrary set of questions, Sandfort chose a technique called the self-confrontation method (SCM), a collaborative process which attempts to allow the subject to decide with the interviewer which areas the subject believes important.

Some of the findings are what one would have expected. For instance, the sex acts consisted mostly of mutual masturbation and oral sex, as they do with adult male homosexuals. The man was usually the initiator of the first sexual act, especially if the boy never had sex with anyone previously. The boy and the man would equally initiate the subsequent sex acts--a fact that runs counter to the popular assumption that the man always takes the initiative.

The key findings are in the boys' emotions toward the sexual parts of their relationships. Good feelings (nice, happy, free, safe, satisfied, proud, strong) outweigh the negative ones (naughty, afraid, dislike, shy, angry, sad, lonely) by almost 6 to 1. The most mentioned negative feeling, in fact, occurred less often than the least mentioned positive one.

Nine of the 17 negative responses formulated by the boys, such as "anger," were directed not at the sex, but at the laws which forbid it. Six of the negative aspects concerned the older partner: the man doing things during sex that the boy didn't want or "keeping on about it" after the boy said no; not having sex often enough; the man not shaving more often; and even the man telling dumb jokes during sex.

Power differences

Crucial is how the boys described the power differences. Sandfort examined this point by asking the boys how they experienced the men's behavior toward them in the sexual contacts.

In 21 of the 25 cases, the boys said that they experienced only positive behavior and no negative behavior whatsoever on the part of the men. The terms "paying attention to, making allowances for, collaborating with, giving a chance to, helping, consulting, and encouraging" received a total of 645 responses by all the boys. This compared to four boys whose mentions of negative behavior ("leaving in the lurch, coercing, making fun of, domineering") totalled 11. The highest frequency of negative behavior ascribed to any man was two occurrences.

How the boys integrated the sex with their older partners into the rest of their lives is also illuminating. Sandfort found that the sexual contact with the man varied widely from boy to boy in its degree as a positive element in their relationship and in the boy's overall life experience. Even so, "to the extent that it made a contribution, it exerted a positive influence on the boy's well being."

Sandfort's study undermines many anti-man/boy love stereotypes in these conclusions:

1. Man-boy love is not a heavy experience, a miniature version of adult heterosexual romantic love: "the sexual nature of the relationship can be experienced by the boy in a less explicit, less emotional manner than is the case with adults."
2. Most man-boy relations do not involve very young children. The age range of the boys in Sandfort's study (10 to 16) pretty well duplicates those he met through the NVSH.
3. Man-boy relations are more equal than the relations that young people have with their parents and teachers. All of the boys cited stronger negative emotions about parents and teachers than about their friendships with the men. Sandfort goes so far as to speak of the "liberating character" of the sexual contact: "The younger partner himself decided how far he wanted to go . . . the older partner was letting him to be free in it and making no demands."

Comfortable with sex

Sandfort's data also debunk notions that boys in a relation with an older male might be isolated from their peers or that their sexual development is interfered with. One possible interpretation of the man-boy interaction is that the older men teach the boys to be comfortable with their sexuality.

The author condemns society's harsh reaction to man/boy love, noting this as the most likely reason for a negative outcome to the man-boy relationship: "According to the youngsters . . . negative behavior by the older partner, which could include abuse of authority, scarcely ever occurred. . . . The existing legislation and legislative proposals were regarded by some of these boys as being more threatening to them than providing them protection."


Will this book have any impact on such legislation in this country? Probably not anytime soon. A study like Sandfort's has never been attempted in this country. It would be difficult to do, given laws in many states which require social service professionals to report all instances of adult-child sex to the police. Studies might be done with anonymous respondents, but getting funds is another matter.

Sandfort's study shows the harm of the current blanket ban on any adult-child relation involving sex. Whether society will come to see this ban as worse than man-boy relations themselves will probably depend on whether pedophiles and young people are able to organize and fight for their rights.

--Abridged and adapted from a review by Mark McHarry, which appeared in Gay Community News, December 1983.

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T.O. SYLVESTER

It's very nice, dear, but do you think Des Moines is ready for it?

Methodists snub gays, follow Looney and Cocke

You may have missed the news that the Methodist Church thinks gay people are human beings but they just don't want any to marry their brothers. The press report went like this:

"Delegates to the United Methodist Church's highest decision-making body voted overwhelmingly today to retain the church position that 'the practice of homosexuality' is incompatible with the Christian life.

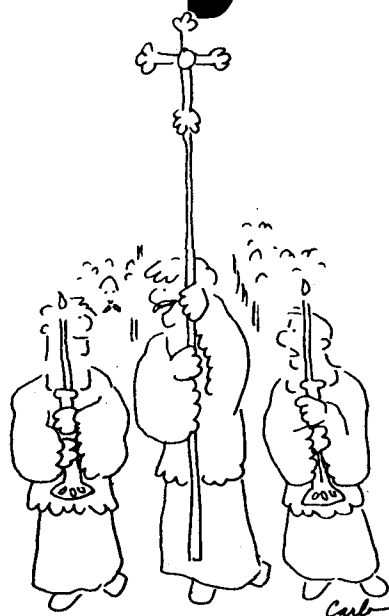
"After nearly two hours of debate on the issue that has polarized the church for more than a decade, delegates rejected several efforts to modify the language in its rule book, called the Book of Discipline

"The Rev. Richard Looney of Johnson City, Tenn., led the fight to continue the 12-year-old church statement, saying, 'We do not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider this practice incompatible with Christian teaching.'

"We are seeking to be sensitive to the sacred worth of persons while saying there are certain practices we do not condone,' Looney said. 'A fair reading of scripture will reveal that the practice of homosexuality is condemned'."

Cocke comments

The article went on to note that one official argued that the church should minister to homosexuals even if it doesn't approve of their lifestyle. But: "Emmett Cocke of Alexandria, Va., rejected that argument as 'contradiction and hypocrisy'."



I love this place! Where else can you get up in drag and feel so respectable?

Two days after this article appeared, the Methodists also voted to bar practicing homosexuals from becoming ministers. They did, however, emphasize that gays are "persons of sacred worth."

Now, did you read all of that carefully? The mind boggles, does it not?

For one thing, just where on the scale of "sacred worth" do gay people fall? Above or below liars, adulterers, and people who lend money for interest? Doesn't a "fair reading of scripture" condemn those folks, too?

And what about a religious group that has its rules in something called the Book of Discipline? Do they also have a Book of Bondage? Or is that only for married couples?

Is it just coincidence that the major antigay spokesperson is named Looney? Will the Methodist stand against homosexuality be called the Looney Doctrine? And how does Emmett Cocke pronounce his last name? Surely one is not expected to take any of this seriously.

Yet, on the off chance that the article was not a misplaced script for Saturday Night Live, I decided to do my gay duty. Recalling that these religious types hold their gatherings on Sunday morning, I cut short a Saturday night of wild dancing and mindless sex, arose early one Sunday a.m., sought out the first Methodist church I could find (they are surprisingly easy to locate), and barged right in. I went straight--oops! directly--to the pulpit and commenced to harangue the startled congregation.

Ferdy talks back

"Some gay friends and I, practicing homosexuals all, have taken a vote and we have decided that we simply cannot condone the practice of Methodism. We think a fair reading of the scripture will show that Methodists are condemned. Southern Baptists are so-so, Presbyterians are acceptable, but God really seems to like Orthodox Jews. Perhaps you could all convert to Judaism--circumcisions permitting.

"While we feel that you have a sacred worth, we don't think you should be bartenders at the Manhandler or Big Rod's. And you can forget about entering the wet jock strap contest at the Glory Hole on Tuesdays.

"Some of our group argued that even though we disapprove of your bigoted, narrow-minded, inconsistent lifestyle, we should still let you march in the annual Gay Pride Parade. But other practicing homosexuals said that would be a contradiction and hypocrisy, so the proposal was soundly defeated.

"I want you to know that we have been agonizing over this issue for many years. Changing the rules in our Book of Hugging and Kissing and Other Good Things is not something we take lightly. Nothing has polarized our ranks so much as this question--except for the time when we couldn't decide if Donna Summers or Gloria Gaynor was the true Queen of Disco. Fortunately Sylvester came along and put an end to the dispute, narrowly averting a vicious schism."

Few of the congregation seemed to be reacting to my words, although one young man raised his hand and said he still preferred Gloria Gaynor. The minister tried to calm his stunned flock by saying, "Don't be upset, my docile sheep. This man is an obvious loony."

I assured him there was a Methodism in my madness and exited with a graceful flourish.

Now let's all turn to page 284 in our hymnal of Loony Tunes and sing the first verse of "Jesus Always Hung Out with Twelve Other Men." Doo-dah.

--Ferdydurke



"And God Bless Uncle Harry and His Roommate Jack, Who We're Not Supposed to Talk About."

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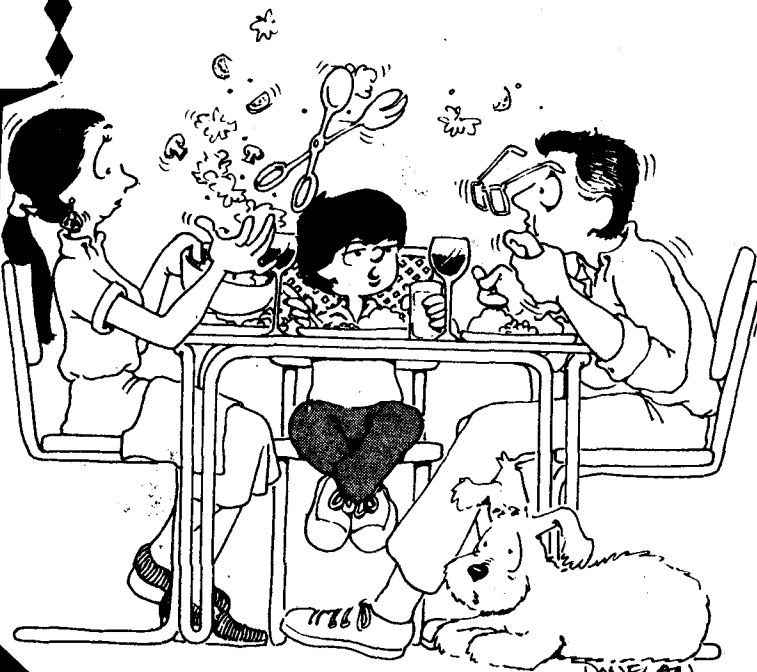
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828-1714



I hope you realize that your heterosexuality will not necessarily prejudice my eventual affectional-preference choice.

POLICE BEAT



Former jail prisoner wins medical care suit

A former prisoner who sued McLean County Jail officials for denial of medical care has won a negotiated settlement of his civil rights suit, according to a Pantagraph story.

Richard Leyes charged in his suit that he waited three days before being allowed to see a doctor after breaking his leg in a fall at the jail in May of 1982.

Leyes said jail officials gave him ice for his leg, but no medical attention for the three-day period. He said he was "constantly told that there was nothing wrong with me and for me to stop my complaining."

The amount of the settlement was not disclosed.

Normal forms special party squad

Big-city police departments have their vice squads. A lot used to have (they're supposed to disband) red squads to spy on radicals.

Normal has just formed a party squad, a "special tactical force" of five cops to deal with student parties.

Normal is dropping almost \$100,000 to start up the special party team. The City will hire three extra cops and buy an additional squad car.

Chief Lehr said his aim is not to intimidate students.

According to a Pantagraph article, Lehr also plans to use the new party squad to "identify high crime areas through the use of plainclothes policeman."

Lehr said the party squad will get special training in handling confrontation in a non-violent way. (How come all cops don't get this training?).

FBI invest

The FBI is investigating Bloomington patrolman Tom Sanders for possible criminal violations of the U.S. Civil Rights Act.

A well-placed source in Bloomington city government, who wished to remain anonymous, leaked the information to the Post Amerikan in late May. The investigation apparently began a short time earlier.

The source said Officer Sanders had been advised to retain an attorney.

George Taseff, Chairperson of the American Civil Liberties Union, confirmed that the FBI investigation is proceeding. In a letter to the Post Amerikan, Taseff said the FBI is looking into "possible federal criminal charges arising from his (Sanders') demonstrated pattern of violating persons' civil rights."

"I doubt that the U.S. Attorney's office in Springfield would actually prosecute Sanders under Title 18 U.S.C. Sec. 4, but the mere fact that the FBI is investigating Sanders and will presumably prepare a report is only indicative of the seriousness of the alleged charges against him," Taseff said.

The last local law enforcement official to be the target of such an investigation was Sheriff John King.

Tom Sanders worked for Sheriff King for a few months in 1975. But they didn't hit it off. In one of his

Sanders misconduct subject of

Criticism of Bloomington patrolman Tom Sanders' pattern of violent incidents has generally been confined to the pages of the Post Amerikan. But when Post reporter Mark Silverstein was invited to do a guest editorial on WJBC Forum June 8, the issue reached a wider audience. The editorial prompted discussion on the station's evening Problems and Solutions call-in show and spurred a rather weak, up-tight reply the following Friday. For Post readers who've followed the Sanders saga, we're reprinting Silverstein's forum and attorney Danny Leifel's reply.

Silverstein's rap

I'm Mark Silverstein. During his seven years on the Bloomington Police force, Patrolman Tom Sanders has certainly left his mark. He has left his mark on people. He has used his fist, his flashlight, his nightstick, a blackjack, even a shotgun.

Four of his victims have already filed lawsuits, charging Tom Sanders with excessive force and violation of civil rights.

Bloomington has already had to pay off on one suit--over half a million to Charles Vasquez, the innocent man Sanders shot in 1980. Vasquez suffers permanent brain damage, thanks to Tom Sanders' quick trigger finger. At the time, State's Attorney Ron Dozier said he had "misgivings" about Sanders' judgment.

Nothing was done.

Tom Sanders used excessive force when he arrested Luella Winston in 1980, according to a written ruling by Judge James Knecht. Sanders, who was arresting Winston for allegedly hosting a loud party dragged Winston by the chain between her handcuffs. Judge Knecht said it was "reasonable and justifiable" that

Winston fought back to protect herself against Tom Sanders.

In 1982 Tom Sanders whapped Alan Mann in the head with a flashlight, and in the face with his fist, according to Tom Sanders' own report. Mann, who received a broken nose, was being arrested for drinking a beer in the parkway in front of his home.

Tom Sanders broke his own hand when he punched out 18-year-old Brian Dietrich two years ago. Dietrich spent five days in the hospital. Donald Story, police chief at the time, said he "questioned" Sanders' judgment.

Nothing was done.

Is there a pattern here that deserves investigation? Or, as Police Chief Lewis DeVault seems to think, is there simply a pack of opportunistic lawyers picking on poor Tommy Sanders?

There are more violent incidents in Tom Sanders' history. Unless something is done, there could be more in the future. Unless something is done, there will be even more lawsuits. Unless something is done, more lawyers will get rich at taxpayers' expense.

Look, cops have it tough. I know. They break up fights. They deal with drunks. They take abuse.

Like other cops, Tom Sanders works under pressure. He works in a scary, complicated mess of highly emotional situations.

But other cops don't seem to leave so obvious a trail of bruised bodies and broken bones.

It's time for that trail to end.



Buy it.

wear

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Spit on it.

on it.

⊕ my sister ⊕
the punk rocker t-shirt

I need a My Sister the Punk Rocker T-shirt. Here's my \$6.00.

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igating patrolman Tom Sanders

lawsuits, Sanders had to write his reason for leaving the Sheriff's employ. "I thought the Sheriff was a jerk," Sanders wrote.

During 1974 and 1975, the FBI investigated a variety of allegations against Sheriff King and some of his deputies. A number of former jail prisoners reported beatings and denial of medical care. Prisoners also charged that their constitutional rights were violated when Sheriff King locked them in punishment chambers like the black box and the stand-up cell in the old McLean county Jail.

In Mid-1975, the U.S. Justice Department decided not to prosecute the Sheriff. Officials emphasized the decision was a pragmatic one. They had evidence against King, but didn't think it would produce a successful prosecution.

The decision not to indict King "does not mean we did not believe that some of those things did not happen," but that "we do not believe the matter can be proved," a Justice Department official told the Daily Pantagraph at the time.

In other words, the U.S. Attorney's Office believed the prisoners, but a jury might not.

Will a similar problem prevent prosecution of Tom Sanders? Wait around 18 months or so, and we'll find out.
-Phoebe Caulfield



Patrolman Tom Sanders, above, is under investigation for use of excessive force and other civil rights violations.



Former Sheriff John King, above, was the last local law enforcement official investigated by the FBI, for beating prisoners in the jail.

forums

Leifel's reply

I'm Dan Leifel. I rarely use this valuable forum to respond to the comments of fellow Forum members. In addition to that, I have never before responded to a statement made by Mark Silverstein, mainly because responding to his statements tends to give them more credence than they deserve. I intend here to deviate from past practice.

Last week on Forum, Mark vilified a Bloomington police officer by the name of Tom Sanders. Officer Sanders' conduct has been the subject of review by his bosses and, though the city has been sued, Officer Sanders is still on the police force.

I do not know Officer Sanders, but I know Chief Lewis DeVault; Manager William Vail, the City's legal counsel; the Mayor and City Council; and the members of the Police and Fire Commission, and I have implicit faith in those people. If, as Mr. Silverstein suggests, Tom Sanders is a bad cop, he would not be a seven-year veteran of the Police Department--he would be unemployed.

Mark Silverstein said one thing that was true. He said, "Look, cops have it tough. I know. They break up fights. They deal with drunks. They take abuse." The fact that some of those people police deal with file lawsuits shouldn't surprise Mark either.

Some of you no doubt remember Mark Silverstein and his attempts, through his publication, to identify undercover narcotics agents, a campaign which made the officers' lives more dangerous and, in my opinion, contributed to the drug problem in our community. If you wonder about the

Pantagraph poll

Every few weeks or months, the Daily Pantagraph purports to discover "what people think about a particular issue" by conducting one of their asinine polls.

These polls don't attempt to sample public opinion in any "scientific" or "representative" way (if, indeed, such ways exist). The Pantagraph just lists a couple of telephone numbers and lets some automatic counting equipment record the calls.

As even Pantagraph readers can figure out, it's possible to vote more than once. (Just let your fingers do the ballot stuffing.) Not only that, it is possible to sabotage the other side by dialing the number for the opposite response and leaving the phone off the hook: that makes it impossible for voters on the other side to get through to the automatic tallying machine.

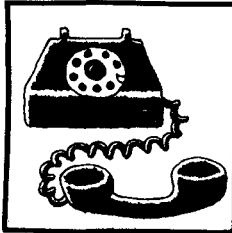
relative merits of Mark Silverstein and Tom Sanders, ask yourself who would you rather have at your side when a drug-crazed burglar is in your home.

As for me, the prospects of being stopped by Tom Sanders do not scare me in the least. Hearing Mark Silverstein on Forum does not give me the same sense of security.

A police officer, in this day and age, has an extremely difficult task. He or she must not only make life and death decisions every day, but must later be ready to defend himself or herself in a courtroom, which is usually far removed from the reality of the street. That criminals file lawsuits is a fact of life; that judges may make wrong decisions is inevitable, and that there are, occasionally, bad cops is undeniable. I do not believe that anything I have heard from Mark Silverstein or read in his monthly publication leads me to believe that Tom Sanders should be fired. A decision on that subject is, and should be, left to the City of Bloomington. The officials making the decisions are, at very least, honest and capable.

I know that this kind of sabotaging goes on because I called the Pantagraph's regular number recently about Geraldine Ferraro's selection. I was either getting a busy signal or a high-

PATHETIC POLL



Do you think the Pantagraph poll is a worthless gimmick intended to fill up space and avoid running another Bill Flick column?

TO VOTE

YES
829-9411

NO
829-0123

Voting time: 4:00a.m. to 5:08a.m.
alternate Tuesdays

pitched squeak. The man who took my complaint said that he'd had to call Gen Tel twice to get off-the-hook lines restored--and it was only 9:30 a.m. Who knows how many times this subterfuge was practiced during the day by wily poll-busters? I don't know whether my vote ever got recorded.

So we at the Post Amerikan are going to conduct our own poll about the Pantagraph Poll.

We call it the Pathetic Poll. Since we're running this feature in order to fill up space and avoid having to run another Water Dept. story, we're assuming the Pantagraph has similar motives for continuing to run their bogus poll. Our question is: Do you think the Pantagraph Poll is a worthless gimmick intended to fill up space and avoid running another Bill Flick column?

Follow the easy directions in the attractive, space-filling graphic that (hopefully) accompanies this snotty little article.

--Ferdydurke

Amerikan Almanak

Send items to Amerikan Almanak, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington.

Compiled by Holly and friends

Mon., July 23

*Theater: "Tintypes," a Broadway hit musical revue. IWU McPherson Theater 8 p.m. For ticket info call 556-3232

Tues., July 24

*Meeting of CISPES (Citizens in Solidarity with People of El Salvador). 7:30 p.m. Bloomington Library Board room

*Discussion: "How to Get the Birth Experience" sponsored by the Childbirth and Parenting Information Exchange. 7 p.m. Bloomington Library community room.

Thurs., July 26

*Children's Theater: "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe." 8 p.m. Miller Park free.

Fri., July 27

*"The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"--children's theater in Miller Park, 8 p.m. FREE

Sat., July 28

*Children's Theater in Miller Park--see entries above.

Sun., July 29

*Illinois Wesleyan Univ. Writer's Conference--through Aug. 3. For more info call 828-5092 or 556-3095.

Wed., Aug. 1

First civil disobedience against U.S. nuke. Seabrook, NH. 1976.

Fri., Aug. 3

*Nuclear Freeze Rally. 12:15 p.m. Bloomington Courthouse steps, featuring music by Marita Brake, poetry, and a dance performance.

Hmmm

I made a mistake in my June-July Hmmm. I was not wrong about American Home Products (think Chef Boy-ar-dee, Anacin, Woolite). In violation of the WHO/UNICEF code it does indiscriminately induce Third World mothers to put their newborn babies on milk formula and the babies do commonly die from this practice.

However, I failed to give the right name of the subsidiary which distributes Anacin, and Dristan and Preparation H. I said it is Whitehall, but it is really Whitehall Laboratories, Inc. (NYC 10017).

I have a special reason to clear this up. Whitehall Laboratories is in trouble with the Illinois Association of Community Pharmacists (IACP). IACP recommends that pharmacists take Advil, a Whitehall Laboratories product, off the shelves and market it only from "under-the-counter" to assure that the pharmacist's advice about Advil is available. IACP recommends this move partly because the consumer labeling leaflet contains 480 words.

A quiz item in the July Harvard Medical School Health Letter asked if women who use the pill for contraception reduce their risks for cancer of the ovary and uterus.

Answer (from the November, 82 issue): Yes. Pill use is estimated to halve the incidence of these cancers, and thus prevent nearly 4000 cases a year.

--Russell Dunwilling

DON'T SULK, EDDY-BOB.
ALL I SAID WAS THAT
SOCIALIST FEMINISM IS A
MORE DURABLE THEORETICAL
BASE THAN ANARCHO-
SYNDICALISM!



North American astronauts play golf on the moon; leave non-degradable waste behind. 1971.

Sat., Aug. 4

*Operation Recycle drive--Eastland Sears parking lot and ISU Turner Hall lots, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Newspapers, tin cans, aluminum cans, container glass and corrugated cardboard.

Mon., Aug. 6

*Nature films: "The Desert Southwest," "The Northwest: Mountains to the Sea," and "Ecology of the Prairie." 2 p.m. Bloomington Public Library. FREE

U.S. exploded nuke over Hiroshima Japan. More than 100,000 civilians killed. 1945.

Wed., Aug. 8

*Child immunization clinic. 9 a.m.- 11 a.m., Sunnyside Community Center, Bloomington. For more info: call McLean Co. Health Dept., 454-1161.

Thurs., Aug. 9

U.S. explodes atomic bomb over Nagasaki, Japan. 1945.

Nixon resigns by popular demand. 1974.

Sat., Aug. 11

*Sell recyclables: newsprint, aluminum, glass. 9 a.m. to noon, Operation Recycle warehouse, 1100 W. Market, Bloomington.

Mon., Aug. 13

*Gym night, sponsored by Planned Parenthood's APPLES Program: Salvation Army, 212 N. Roosevelt, Bloomington. 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Tues., Aug. 14

*Salvadoran Caravan for Peace & Justice in South America--demonstration. 12:30 p.m. Bloomington courthouse. Speakers, forum, etc.--later in the evening. For more info call 828-5662, ask for Michelle.

Thurs., Aug. 16

3000 Buffalo socialists hold rally to protest WWI. 1914.

Fri., Aug. 17

Half million people party. Woodstock, NY. 1969.

Sat., Aug. 18

*Operation Recycle buys newsprint, aluminum, glass. 9 a.m.-noon. 1100 W. Market, Bloomington.

Sun., Aug. 19

*Democratic Party "Fun Fair," 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Carpenters Hall, 2002 Beich Road, Bloomington. Info: call 828-4368.

Thurs., Aug. 23

*Post Amerikan deadline--send in your ads, stories, and moola early. Avoid the rush.

Sat., Aug. 25

Bloomington-Normal's own all-girl rock and roll band, TOXIC SHOCK, plays at the Galery. For the cultural experience of your life, come hear TOXIC SHOCK!

Sun., Aug. 26

U.S. women finally get the right to vote. 1920.

Mon., Aug. 27

*Workshop on the new sexual assault law. 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bloomington Public Library community room. Free.

Support family planning and share the earth.



© 1982 Sam McKelley
Illustration

please come see us at the APPLES/
Planned Parenthood booth at the
McLean Co. Fair July 31-August 4

State power over inmates questioned

Three little, two little, no little imbeciles

In a decision made just this month (July) the United States Supreme Court ruled 5 to 4 that "the Fourth Amendment proscription against unreasonable searches does not apply within the confines of the prison cell." In the relevant specific case the court held in effect that it was legal for guards in a Virginia prison to destroy the legal materials and personal papers of an inmate.

This is a serious curtailment of critical rights, and an exercise of contempt by the well-off for those who are already grieving, who are inmates.

In 1927 there was another decision of the United States Supreme Court that is worth looking at. In that decision the Supreme Court held 8 to 1 that it was legal for Virginia authorities to physically mar--in particular, to sterilize--an inmate without his or her consent.

A new discussion of this decision also appeared just this month that gives new evidence of the injustice done. The relevant specific case applied to Carrie Buck, a white woman. She was committed to the (Virginia) State Colony for Epileptics and Feeble-Minded in January, 1924, when she was eighteen and pregnant. Later in 1924 the Virginia law allowing involuntary sterilization was passed, and still later in 1924 Carrie Buck was selected as the first person to be sterilized under this law.

A trial was held in response to the selection of Carrie Buck, which in effect was a challenge to the constitutionality of the sterilization law. It is this challenge that made its way to the 1927 Supreme Court.

Following the 1927 decision Carrie Buck was sterilized in Lynchburg Hospital, Lynchburg, Virginia, and according to the Supreme Court, legally.

Strangely, in both the 1984 case mentioned above and the 1927 case, the opinions for the majorities were written by leading advocates of reform.

The opinion in the Carrie Buck case was written by Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., long known as a defender of decent work laws, but also as a legal scholar of depth and originality and as a writer of great vigor. Thus the Carrie Buck opinion is remembered by its clangorous final sentence, "Three generations of imbeciles are enough."

This sentence is the focus of the discussion that has come forth this month. Why three generations? Indeed, what did that 1924 law say? Where did it come from? What were the facts of the Carrie Buck case? Given these facts, did that law apply?

The law in question was written by Harry Laughlin, superintendent of the Eugenics Record Office--the semi-official arm and storehouse of data for the eugenics movement in America.

The main efforts of the movement were,

and are, guided by two ideas about people with hereditary "defects": to not allow foreign ones to enter the country, and to not allow native ones to breed.

The outcome of the movement's efforts with foreign "defectives" could hardly have been a disappointment to the movement. Certainly the opponents of the movement had more to be disappointed about. The deportation of "mentally defective," newly arrived immigrants increased 570 per cent in 1914 over the average of the five preceding years.

Moreover, Laughlin's law applied not only to imbeciles and other feeble-minded people but also to the blind, the deaf, orphans, tramps, paupers, and so forth. So he was optimistic that "good" sterilization laws could in two generations eliminate "the most worthless one-tenth of our present population." Still, the eugenics movement has always taken a special interest in feeble-minded people, so it is not surprising that the first person sterilized under the new law was an alleged imbecile.

And it is not surprising that Harry Laughlin submitted a brief in Carrie Buck's original trial--a brief which, of course, reached the Supreme Court--that argued that "the evidence points strongly toward the feeble-mindedness and moral delinquency of Carrie Buck being due, primarily, to inheritance and not to environment."

What evidence of inheritance did Harry Laughlin produce? He reported the IQ scores of Carrie Buck and her 52-year-old mother, Emma Buck: Carrie, nine years; Emma, eight years. These scores did rank them as imbeciles by the definitions of the day, but it is important to note that these scores were not available at the time Carrie Buck was committed to the State Colony for Epileptics and Feeble-Minded.

The question arises, are these scores sufficient evidence of inheritance? Usually not in a proper court of law. We are now at the reason for "three" in "Three generations of imbeciles are enough."

There is a folk tradition that two occurrences of an event may be an accident, but three occurrences are a regularity. (The tradition goes back as far as Plato, but it is reflected, for example, in Exodus 20:5.) Tradition has it that there is a minimum number of occurrences that passes for real evidence of regularity.

Of course, usually more than three gives stronger evidence, but legal hearings commonly cannot wait for all the relevant evidence. So the rule of evidence in law is a rule of three. According to this rule, imbecility is inherited if grandparent, parent, and child are imbeciles. Conversely, if one of these three is not an imbecile, the case for inheritance fails.

Harry Laughlin knew he needed evidence about the intelligence of Vivian Buck, the child Carrie Buck was carrying

when she was committed to the Colony. The only evidence he got was testimony from Miss Wilhelm, a Red Cross social worker, who interviewed Vivian on one occasion when she was seven months old. (Remember, this evidence was to appear in time for the original trial late in 1924.)

Miss Wilhelm admitted "my knowledge of the mother may prejudice me." She went on to say she found Vivian "very apathetic and unresponsive" by contrast with the granddaughter of Carrie Buck's foster parents, who was three days older than Vivian.

In her testimony Miss Wilhelm recommended Carrie Buck's sterilization: "...it would at least prevent the propagation of her kind."

From our perspective, Miss Wilhelm is an incompetent assessor of intelligence, admittedly prejudiced, testifying from a single interview of an infant.

What about the IQ tests given Emma and Carrie Buck? Stephen Jay Gould at Harvard, an authority on the history of the measurement of intelligence, says they are "fatally flawed" early versions of the Stanford-Binet.

A number of scholars and reporters talked with Carrie Buck in her Charlottesville home between 1980 and her death in 1983. She was unanimously found normal. For example, she was found to be a regular reader of the daily newspaper.

Vivian died when she was eight, so her personal testimony cannot be given. But what makes the Carrie Buck case news this month is that Vivian's school records have been found, thanks to Gould and Paul A. Lombardo of the School of Law at the University of Virginia, a leading scholar of the Carrie Buck case.

A study of Vivian's report cards shows that she was an adequate student, not brilliant, but capable of an occasional appearance of the honor roll.

In fact, Dr. Lombardo's conclusion from his research is that none of the three Bucks were imbeciles.

We return to Carrie Buck's commitment to the Colony. We begin with the opening remark from Miss Wilhelm's testimony on Vivian. "Mr. Dobbs, who had charge of the girl (Carrie), . . . had reported that the girl was pregnant and that he wanted to have her committed somewhere--to have her sent to some institution."

Gould says that this gives the real key to the Carrie Buck case. Carrie Buck was raped and made pregnant by a relative of Dobbs and she was committed to the Colony to "hide her shame (and her rapist's identity)."

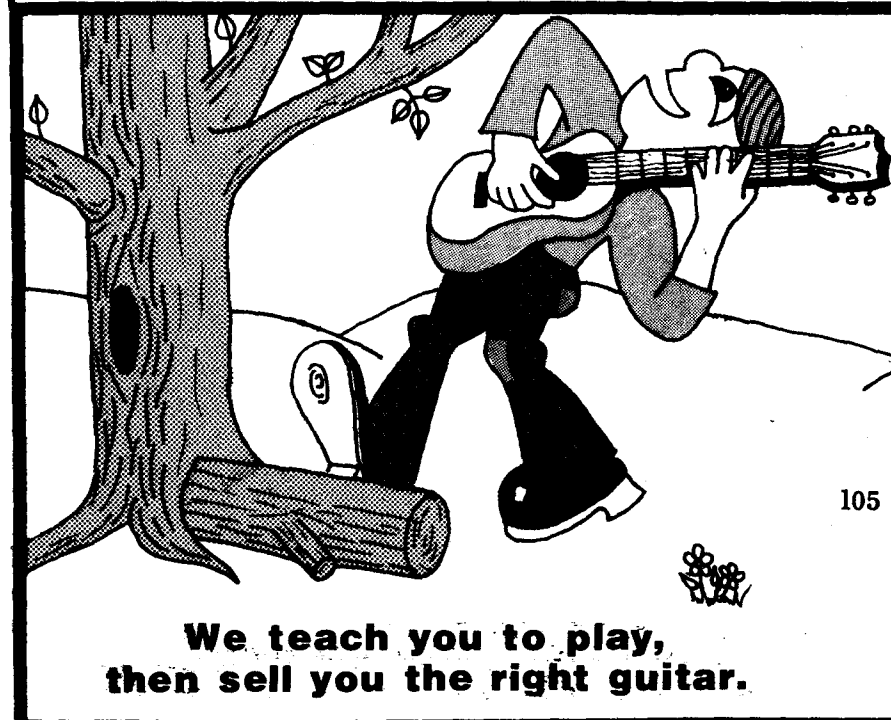
The State of Virginia sterilized more than 7500 people, men and women, under the 1924 law and the 1927 Supreme Court decision, some as late as 1972.

How many abuses will occur in Virginia because of the 1984 Supreme Court

decision allowing prison guards to destroy the personal papers of prison inmates?

Sources: The Mismeasure of Man, Gould 1981; Natural History, July, 1984, Gould.

--Russell Dunwilling



Welcome in
Summer
105 Broadway • Normal
GUITAR WORLD

**We teach you to play,
then sell you the right guitar.**

Nurses at Fairbury fight for respect and power

If you have ever spent time confined to a hospital bed, you know how things work. You see that highly paid medical doctor for ten minutes a day, fifteen minutes tops. You also know that the nursing staff is there around the clock, attending to your needs, giving medications, and observing and charting your symptoms and condition. They comfort and bathe you, help you to the bathroom if you can get around (or empty your bedpan if you can't), hold your hand when you need it, and perhaps come to know you more intimately than anyone else ever has.

It seems logical then that nurses should have a strong voice in the development of policies concerning patient care. Probably a stronger voice than that doctor who always seems to have some place more important to be than with you; and certainly stronger than administrators and board members who have never spent a significant moment at the bedside of



anyone other than close friends and family. It seems logical, but, of course, that is not the case--there are virtually no nurses in policy-making positions. But in the great tradition of American labor, nurses all over this country, including in Fairbury, that sleepy little community in our own backyard, are joining together to form a strong, unified, organized voice for their profession, a voice made wise through practical, hands-on experience.

The circumstances which have led to the formation of the Fairbury Professional Technical Association

(FPTA), which includes nurses and technical employees, are common: lack of a participatory management system, alienation in the work environment, and no job security. Beginning over a year ago, the nursing staff at Fairbury attempted to communicate their grievances to the hospital administration with no success before formally contacting the Illinois Nurses Association (INA) for guidance.

Many Problems

The FPTA has identified a number of problems that directly affect the staff: communication difficulties between nurses, physicians, and managers; overnight, unplanned changes in the way nursing care is to be delivered; infrequent, inadequate evaluations; lack of continuing education/in-service education; frequent scheduling changes; cuts in fringe benefits and reduction of the work force without input from those affected; and many other difficulties which directly and indirectly affect the quality of patient care.

According to a spokesperson for the FPTA, their early efforts failed because "the problems we identified were viewed as unimportant; the association was seen as a weak, disorganized group of chronic complainers--a time-limited group which would self-destruct; and the autocratic administration was unaccustomed to involving the rank and file employee in identifying and resolving problems."

Banned from the hospital, the association organized in private homes, and in a letter to hospital staff members, announced: "We have now embarked on a course of action which we believe will result in greater self-governance, improved practice of nursing, better communication, and more direct input into policies which affect all of us and our patients." Eventually the staff was polled under the INA's professional and legal guidelines to determine whether or not they would petition the National Labor Relations Board to become a collective bargaining unit.

That vote was successful, as was the NLRB hearing held in Peoria last February, a decision which the hospital has appealed. The union vote took place in April, although because of the appeal, the ballots have been impounded and have yet to be counted. As of now, no one knows if the staff voted to formally accept the INA as its official sponsor.

Scare Tactics

During this time the administration sent to the staff an almost daily barrage of letters full of guilt trips and scare tactics, misrepresenting the association and its views and warning of the likely repercussions of joining a union (such as paying exorbitant dues, losing an individual voice, and being forced to go on strike). One such letter proclaimed, "It is unfortunate that a small group of disgruntled and frustrated employees have chosen the course they have in the guise of 'improved patient care.' Improved patient care can only come about by the unselfish efforts of all employees working together and supporting our top management team."

In this spirit of harmony and teamwork, administration members have tried to turn the non-professional staff against the union, resulting in bad blood and nasty personal confrontations between employees. They also attempted to squelch a free blood pressure check-up the nurses had arranged on their own time at the only local supermarket. Whatever pressure they applied to the owner was successful, forcing the nurses to move to another less desirable location.

In a time of severe financial crisis compounded by an empty bed epidemic and changes in Medicare policies, a time when employees are expected to accept wage and benefit cuts for the good of the hospital, insiders estimate that Fairbury's top management team has spent in excess of \$75,000 fighting the union and they aren't done yet. In addition, nine staff nurses (out of only 33) have been fired or have quit under pressure. In 1978 the cost of replacing a registered nurse was estimated at \$2000, a figure that included only orientation, training, and processing costs, and did not account for recruitment, nonproductivity during orientation and initial work experience, overtime coverage, or termination costs.

Women's Work

The problems at Fairbury cannot be traced simply to a small group of rabble-rousers, but it can be linked to the fact that nursing always has been and continues to be, for the most part, a women's profession, or more accurately, a women's job. Nurses are denied the respect, the voice, the pay afforded other professionals. In January the INA filed an EEOC suit against the State of Illinois after a study showed that accountants on the state payroll made \$4392 more than nurses, although job evaluations rated nursing higher in terms of required skill. In 1945, the income of nurses was approximately one third that of doctors. Today it is one fifth.

As in other professions, nurses can't afford to be considered worth less, both economically and professionally, simply because most of them are women. Many of the nurses at Fairbury are single mothers, or a vital share of a two-paycheck family. They can't afford to let their hours and benefits be cut back. They can't go on working in an environment where they have no input into policies. Most important, they can't give up without a fight.

--Clara Barton

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN HOUSING IS YOUR RIGHT!

If you feel you have been denied housing or treated unfairly because of your race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry or physical or mental handicap, contact the

**Bloomington Human
Relations Commission**

at

828-7361, Ext. 218/219

*The Bloomington Human Relations Commission is
here to assist and to help.*

UPON DISCOVERING THE SECRET OF THE EXPLODING TIT PILLOWS, KAT AND TOOTS ARE ABOUT TO MAKE A QUICK GETAWAY WHEN THEY ARE CAUGHT BY THE DESPICABLE **MRS. FISHER!** MORE EVIL THAN **UNCLE CLIFF**, CRAFTIER THAN **ANGINA SPITZ**, SHE MAY BE KAT'S MOST FORMIDABLE ENEMY **EVER!** JUST AS KAT PREPARES TO USE ONE OF THE (UTTERLY RIDICULOUS) **BOSOM BOMBS**, THE LIGHTS ARE CUT, AND WHEN POWER IS RETURNED, OUR HEROINES FIND THEMSELVES IN THE POWERFUL GRASP OF MRS. FISHER'S HENCHMAN, **BILLY!** IS IT CURTAINS FOR...



MY SISTER, the PUNK ROCKER



and her best buddy, **TOOTS**

MRS. FISHER HAS ORDERED BILLY TO TAKE KAT and TOOTS TO THE **SHREDDING ROOM**, WHERE THEY AWAIT A CERTAIN DEATH!!

AW SHUCKS, BILLY! YOU DON'T WANNA OFF A COUPLE OF KIDS LIKE US, DO YA?

I GET PAID. I DO MY JOB!

WHAT'S A MATTER? DIDJA LOSE YOUR CONTRACT FOR THE MR. CLEAN COMMERCIALS?



HEY! DON'T MAKE JOKE'S ABOUT THAT! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT I WENT THROUGH — THE HUMILIATION, THE EMBARRASSMENT! THEY TOLD ME THEY WANTED A YOUNGER IMAGE! 25 YEARS I PUT IN AS MR. CLEAN AND THEN THEY DUMP ME FOR ANOTHER GUY!! SO HE COULD BREAK DANCE, BIG DEAL!!

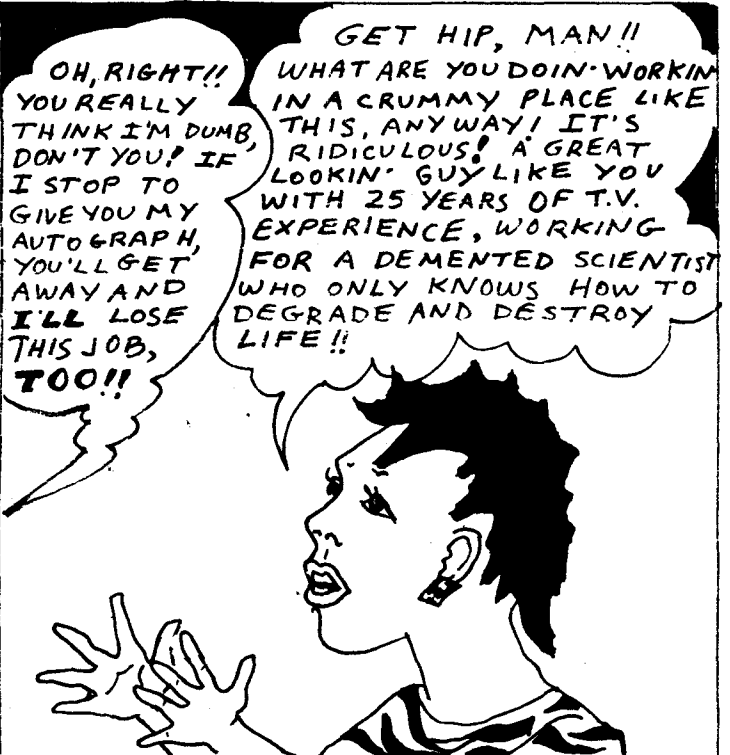
STARTLED BY THE REVELATION, THE GIRLS **THINK FAST**, AS THE WHIRRING BLADES OF THE SHREDDING MACHINE DRAW EVER NEARER!!

GOSH, BILL! WE DIDN'T KNOW! YOU MEAN YOU'RE REALLY, TRULY MR. CLEAN?? **WOW!!** I'VE NEVER MET A STAR BEFORE!!

GEE, BILLY!! I WOULDN'T NORMALLY ASK — I KNOW HOW CELEBS HATE TO BE BOTHERED BY REAL PEOPLE, BUT... CAN I HAVE YOUR AUTOGRAPH? FOR MY MOM, OF COURSE! SHE LOVES YOU!!

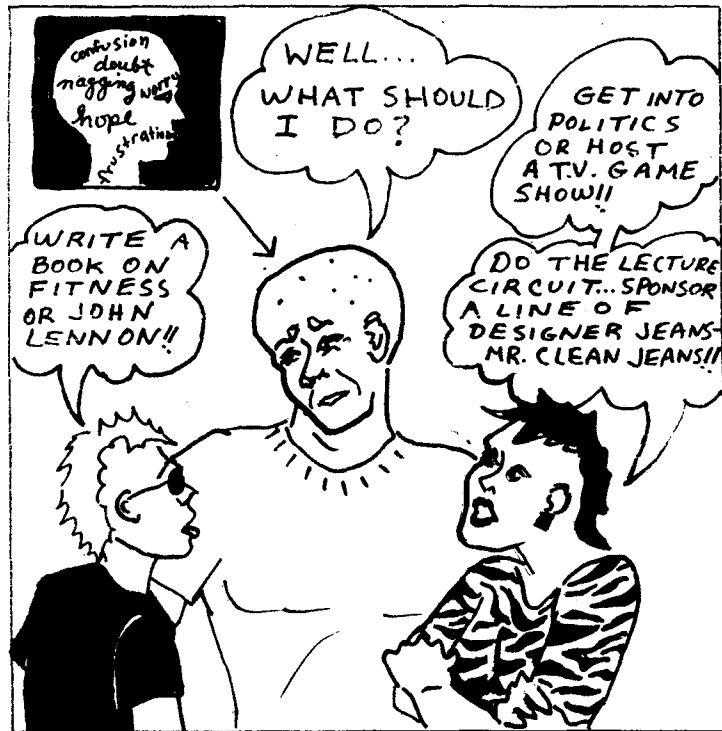


WHIRR!!!



OH, RIGHT!! YOU REALLY THINK I'M DUMB, DON'T YOU? IF I STOP TO GIVE YOU MY AUTOGRAPH, YOU'LL GET AWAY AND I'LL LOSE THIS JOB, **TOO!!**

GET HIP, MAN!! WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' WORKIN' IN A CRUMMY PLACE LIKE THIS, ANYWAY! IT'S RIDICULOUS! A GREAT LOOKIN' GUY LIKE YOU WITH 25 YEARS OF T.V. EXPERIENCE, WORKING FOR A DEMENTED SCIENTIST WHO ONLY KNOWS HOW TO DEGRADE AND DESTROY LIFE!!



WELL... WHAT SHOULD I DO?

GET INTO POLITICS OR HOST A T.V. GAME SHOW!!

WRITE A BOOK ON FITNESS OR JOHN LENNON!!

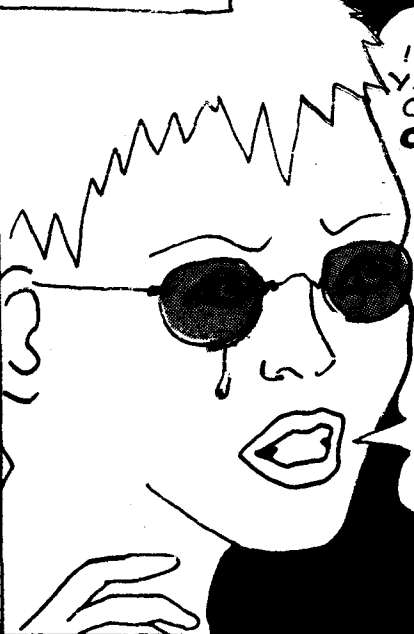
DO THE LECTURE CIRCUIT... SPONSOR A LINE OF DESIGNER JEANS — MR. CLEAN JEANS!!

JUST AS BILLY BEGINS TO SUBMIT TO THEIR CLEVER, BUT SINCERE COUNSELING...

BILLY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? MUST I REPLACE YOU WITH SOMEONE YOUNGER, WHO CAN THINK CLEARLY? DESTROY THEM!! **NOW!!**



AS BILLY STEPS NEAR TO THEM AND ONCE AGAIN GRASPS THEM FIRMLY BY THE ARM...



SO THIS IS HOW IT ENDS, EH? WITH YET ANOTHER SILLY CHILDHOOD BELIEF **CRUSHED** UNDER THE UGLY BOOT OF **REALITY!!** I ALWAYS THOUGHT MR. CLEAN WAS A STRONG PERSON — SOMEONE YOU COULD COUNT ON — CLEAN AND JUST, WITH NO STAINS ON HIS SOUL!! I GUESS I WAS **WRONG.**



BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I STILL HAVE A **SHRED** OF DIGNITY!!

YOU... YOU WOULDN'T DARE!!



WHIRR!!!

CAUTION

KEEP CLEAR OF BLADES WHEN IN USE

IRENE, GOODBYE

CAUTION:

KEEP CLEAR OF BLADES WHEN IN USE

Teen punished for attempting suicide

Dear Post,

Sometimes I think everybody thinks about suicide. Probably true.

But there's usually something to stop us. Like who's going to feed Fido if you don't? Your roommate would sooner use Fido for dinner (something like in the movie Eating Raoul) than buy him some Alpo, so you figure you'd better stick around to do it. Then you point to ol' Fido and say, "You better feel lucky this time."

Then again, there are those that go on ahead and do attempt suicide. Usually they're the ones who're thinking about it so long they're pretty disturbed people. They deserve someone to help them. Someone to lay some of that, "Ohhhh, it'll be just peachy keen in no time" on them to tide them over until they really do recuperate.

Seems a little motherly affection is running low in the suicide department these days. After a friend of mine (let's be neat and call her Dekka) enlisted some of the social services around town during her trip down the suicide route, she ended up coming to me and saying, "They treated me like they wanted me to do it all over again!"

Her story goes something like this:

Dekka had been thinking about suicide and she had already tried once and failed--or won; however you want to put it, she didn't die. The people at PATH had gotten her from doing it one other time. Dekka began to feel pretty low about herself (her ex-boyfriend was getting his thrills these days by calling her a bitch and a cow, which

didn't help her situation any). "I figured suicide was the only way out," she told me.

PATH helped her with tongues speaking sugary-coated words when she tried again and called them to see if they could keep her from dying. With their help, she lived.

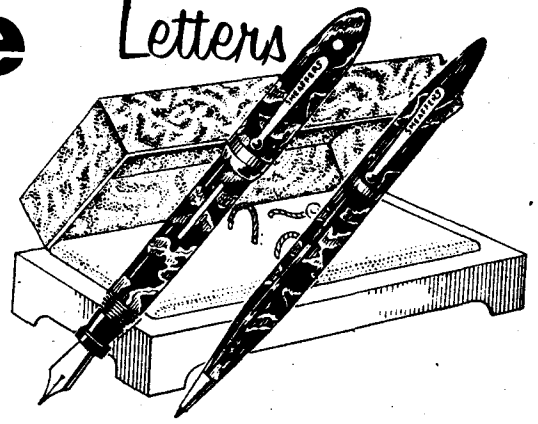
"The majority of the problem was that I never got a word in edgewise with my parents," she said, "but when I later went to a therapist about it with my parents, she repeatedly told me to shut up and when I tried to give my opinion, she snapped at me, 'Dekka, this is not a debate!' That only made my parents think they were justified in making my home a communist establishment! And when I was ready and willing to talk about my suicide attempt, the therapist told me to shut up again but told my parents I was running away from the situation! I never felt so low in my life when she treated me that way session after session, even when I had tried killing myself!" Dekka finished by saying, "O.k., I didn't want her to say I'd be living happily ever after now, but I guess I expected a little common courtesy. I guess these days it's a little too much to ask."

The possibility of having a therapist harassing you is an even better reason for not attempting suicide than good ol' Fido.

---The Real One

P.S. "Dekka" is okay now. All I can do for her is sit and listen, but she says that's the best bet any day.

Letters



Gay news important and helpful

Dear Post Amerikan,

I'm responding to our friend in alternative news from Southbury Conn. The issue is not that there is too much gay news in the Post Amerikan, but that there needs to be more space for all news in the Post period. That, of course, means more hands and more dollars--so here's more dollars--sorry my hands are far away. On another note about the gay news in the Post--I am gay and grew up in good old B-N. In my youth there was no local source for news about healthy, happy, political gay people. So I spent a number of years unaware that I am what I am due in some part to fear--I, of course, did not fit the mainstream media's sordid mold of queers pushed at us in print and electronically, thus I couldn't be queer--something, maybe "sensitive"--but I wasn't queer. End of fear. A local source of alternative information on my street corner in a bright red newspaper machine would have been a welcome input.

I hope the Post continues its battle for years to come--not just for gay news--but for all news that liberates thought and chips away at the chains of oppression in Amerika and the world. And I do not envy you your task of fitting in what news you can and waiting till the next time on what remains. Keep it up.

Sincerely,
Linc King
Chicago, IL

GET YOUR POST T-SHIRT TODAY

Yes! I want a colorful Post-Amerikan T-shirt. Better yet, I'm sending \$6 to pay for it!

Name _____

Address _____

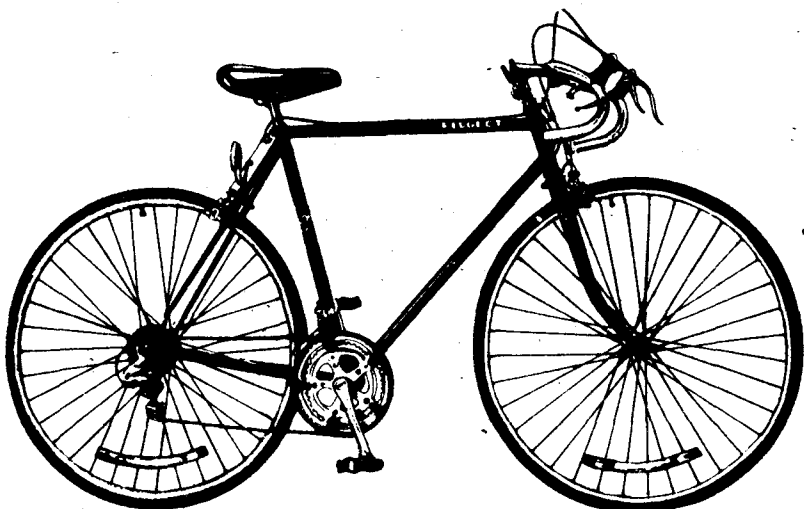
City _____

State & Zip _____

Extra line _____

The correct line _____

I will mail my money and this handy order form to Post-Amerikan, P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington IL 61702.



A Winning Combination WILSON'S BIKE SHOP and PEUGEOT

STARTING AT
\$179

WILSON'S CYCLE
919 W. Market, Bloomington
"14 years experience"

SUMMER HOURS:
Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Non-medical therapists can help

Dear POST Gang:

I've read the POST for years and enjoy it every month. However, I saw something in the June-July issue which prompted me to write.

You ran an ad that read: "You are mentally ill. You should see a psychiatrist. Not a psychologist." The ad went on to explain that, in effect, a drug is necessary therapy. A drug will make you feel better. I kept trying to figure out if the ad was a joke...if I had missed the humor. But it was serious.

Let me digress a bit here. A couple months ago you ran an article about one person's experience with the psychiatric profession and asked your readers to share experiences they had had. The ad prompted me to share mine. Please understand that I do not feel comfortable giving my name. Some of you know me (at least obliquely), and many of my friends read the POST. There is still a huge social stigma against those of us who have undergone (willingly or not) therapy for mental/emotional problems, and I do not want to be stigmatized by people whom I know. (We all hear "this doesn't change anything," but then never hear again from friends who say that.)

About a year or so ago, because of what I thought were overwhelming problems in my life, I tried to kill myself. I was depressed, feeling very alone. I went to the local mental health clinic and talked to a very accepting woman therapist who encouraged me not only to face my conflicts but also to seek to resolve them. I was not interested in pursuing therapy at that point, so she wished me well and made it clear she would be further available to me at any time.

Within a couple of months I again felt that life was bad, I was bad, etc. and tried again to kill myself. (To this day I don't understand how I made it through those attempts.) I felt I was at the end of my rope, so to speak. A real failure --

couldn't make life worthwhile and couldn't even get it together enough to end it right. I decided it was time to seek out and try therapy again.

I went to the mental health center again. The same day as my intake interview I was scheduled to see the staff psychiatrist. When I walked into his office he glanced over my file and asked questions such as "Have you been having crying spells? Have you lost weight recently? Do you have problems sleeping at night?" (Yes, of course. It's in my file. Didn't you read it?) With no questions about the conflicts I was having or about my suicide attempts, he simply handed me a prescription for a mood elevator and told me to reschedule an appointment for 2 weeks. I was not assigned a counselor for 2 1/2 weeks.

At the end of those 2 weeks I again saw the psychiatrist. He seemed to have no interest in anything but whether or not I was still crying, if I had gained weight, and if I was sleeping at night. I still felt miserable, but since he seemed to be in a hurry and just wanted to write me another prescription; I simply stated I thought I was feeling better. He nodded, wrote another prescription, and told me to make another appointment for 1 1/2 months. In all honesty, the only thing I felt the medication did was rob me of some kinesthetic awareness and constipate me, so I stopped taking it.

A few days later I was assigned to another female therapist. I went in and told her I wasn't taking the medication and I thought I could handle things. She accepted that but encouraged me to be open to some therapy with her. She seemed so accepting and genuinely concerned (and I still felt pretty alienated) that I decided to give it a try.

This woman (not a psychiatrist or psychologist, but an M.A. in psych) and I talked weekly for several months. As a therapist, she was trained to help people to help them-

selves--not to judge, prescribe, classify or any of those other help "helpful medical tools." She helped/encouraged me to find and see my own mistakes, misconceptions, patterns, and answers. My life seemed to be turning around and I was the one turning it.

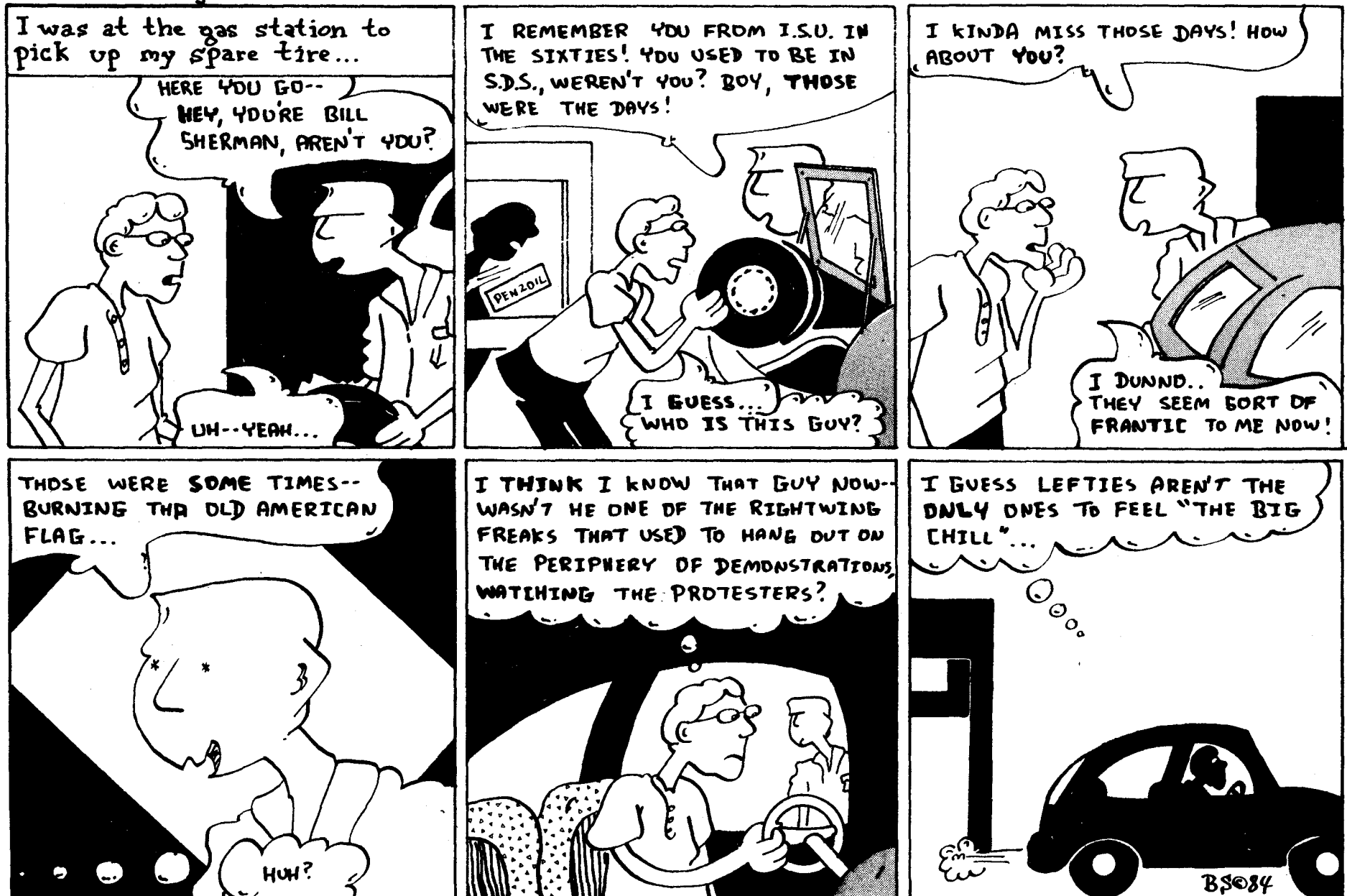
In the meantime I had gone back for the other appointment with the psychiatrist. He did not know that I had had stopped taking the medication 6 weeks prior to the appointment, and he attributed my success in therapy to the effects of the meds, and further went on to tell me I would probably need to continue taking them for a long time. When I told him I no longer took them and wanted no further prescriptions, he showed his disapproval (for getting better on my own?) and told me any time I wanted to resume taking the drug, he would write a prescription. End of session, no more questions. It lasted all of 5 or so minutes. So much for seeing a psychiatrist who (because of sitting through more classes) could prescribe a drug to "make you feel good, even when you feel bad."

So...when I saw that ad you ran it hit me like a Mac truck. In my case it was the person in the psychological profession (as opposed to the psychiatric) who helped me to feel good and helped me to face and deal with the bad. Which would you choose? I realize that some people do need and should have psychiatric help, but to suggest that a psychologist or therapist is inadequate in times of mental/emotional need is a gross disservice to both people seeking help and the psychological profession.

A Faithful Reader

POST Note: Sorry, but the ad was not serious. It was not intended as a slap against psychologists, but a satiric swipe at psychiatrists (and other medicos who push pills at people who need other forms of help. Your experiences with the staff psychiatrist is the sort of "give 'em drugs" attitude that the phoney ad was supposed to be lampooning.

A True Story



Caravan for peace and justice

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A "caravan of Salvadoran political refugees" is visiting 15 cities throughout the midwest. The Bloomington/Normal Chapter of CISPES (Citizens in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador) has completed arrangements for 8 members of the Caravan to appear in Bloomington on August 14. They will be greeted by a rally and demonstration at 12:30 in front of the old Courthouse.

The evening of August 14 there will be a public presentation by the refugees at a local church.

On August 15 local Bloomington-Normal volunteers will drive the Caravan members to Chicago in time for the rally there that will conclude the caravan.

B/N CISPES wishes to call particular attention to the central fact on the situation of the more than half a million Salvadoran Refugees in the United States: They are political refugees, not economic refugees hoping to migrate to the United States or any other nation. Almost without exception their only desire is to return to their own country as soon as it is safe for them to do so.

Nevertheless the U.S. government--to maintain the pretense of "human rights progress" in El Salvador and to give credence to U.S. support for the murderous regime of that nation--has refused to grant political refugee status even to men and women who fled El Salvador only after repeated attempts on their lives by the notorious death squads.

Bloomington/Normal CISPES is asking for volunteers to house the Salvadorans

Voter registrars

As of July 1, a new law in Illinois gives a variety of groups the opportunity to register voters. Groups can now have a voter registrar from their membership, and this person can register people anywhere in in McLean County.

The law makes a number of distinctions. Government agencies, such as the Illinois Department of Public Aid and the Illinois Department of Labor, are entitled to have their own registrars. So is every high school, university, community college, library, and labor union in the state.

Finally, "civic organizations" are entitled to a registrar. What is a civic organization? The State Board of Elections defines this term broadly, as any "patriotic or political organization in the State of Illinois." The only catch is that a civic organization must be registered with the State Board of Elections and be certified as a civic organization to be entitled to registrars.

If you want any information on these points, call Project Vote, 828-4368. Civic organizations must apply to the State by August 1 if they want their registrars appointed, so for some groups, the time to move is now. Register & Vote.

on August 14 and for others to transport them to Chicago on the morning of the 15th. If you are interested contact Michelle George at 828-5662.

The Caravan costs both the B/N CISPES and the Caravan Committee a great deal of money. Please send a contribution to:
CISPES
P.O. Box 4041
Bloomington, IL. 61702

Campaign for Peace

Local people are organizing opposition to war in Central America. If you're interested in being actively involved, write: Campaign for Peace, P.O. Box 4041, Bloomington, IL 61702.

Project Disarm blockades Rock Island Arsenal

The U.S. Arsenal at Rock Island took on the appearance of an armed camp in the two weeks before June 4th, revealing its own true nature. The Quad Cities, which surrounds the Arsenal, was in a state of siege. Barbed wire fences and gates went up at all three auto bridge approaches, guards were stationed 24 hours a day at a railroad bridge, and NATO wire was strung along the railroad bridge as well as in the slough on one side of the island in the narrow channel of the Mississippi. Three hundred elite, specially-trained military police were flown in from Ft. Riley, Kansas and Ft. Benning, Georgia to guard the inner perimeter, the Coast Guard patrolled river approaches, helicopters surveilled the houses of local organizers, and electric "stun guns" were purchased by the local police forces.

Rock Island Arsenal is the Army's largest manufacturing arsenal, producing arms ranging from machine guns, gun mounts, and tank parts to 105mm and 155mm nuclear-capable howitzers. These weapons are supplied to regimes including El Salvador, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, and the Philippines. The Arsenal also houses the Armament, Munitions, and Chemical Command (AMCCOM), an administrative center in charge of a \$9 billion annual budget with 5000 civilian employees at Rock Island. AAMCOM is in charge of research, development, production, and distribution of all chemical warfare supplies for the Army. Project Rearm, the \$233 million expansion program, is part of a national plan to prepare for "production surge capacity" in the event of all-out war mobilization.

Project Disarm, an anti-war organization, decided to blockade the Rock Island facility on June 4th. Four or five hundred people participated.



community news

There were over 100 people arrested at Rock Island, mainly in standard road sitdowns. But about 100 more blockaders were never arrested. They used mobile disruptive tactics, moving on when the police neared, and pulled objects into the roads leading up to the bridgeheads including highway saw-horses, trash dumpsters, tires, sewer piping, metal shavings, glass, and life-size dummies, bloodied and mutilated like death-squad victims in Central America.

These tactics failed in preventing Arsenal workers from getting to work, despite the fact that Moline city work crews were reported to have removed four truckloads of debris from the streets. As an expression of non-cooperation, though, as an alternative to voluntary submission to arrest, and in terms of the experience gained by those who participated, the mobile street tactics were a highlight of the action.

The visible preparations the Army and the local police made at the Arsenal were not the only indication that they take seriously the possibility of proliferating disruptions. Use of undercover infiltrators by the local police forces was admitted the day after the action in the Quad City Times: one of the agents was inadvertently exposed by a processing officer in jail who didn't know he was pretending to be a blockader. Attempts to split the organizing committee took the form of starting rumors aimed at the revolutionary organizations involved, especially in two of the college towns, spreading fears of violence and manipulation. In the context of pre-existing fears, this was fertile ground, and made some headway where the local organizing committees were not clear and firmly committed.

Ultimately, Project Disarm was a victory in defeat. Although production was not stopped on the day of the action, many hours of the Arsenal's planning were diverted for months from offensive war production to defense of the perimeter, right in the "patriotic Heartland." A state of siege was created at the Arsenal and in the Quad Cities by our public organizing for a Shutdown. (On June 12, Col. Gamino, commander of the Arsenal, said that the defenses cost \$500,000, including \$200,000 in police overtime, and that they would be permanent.)

Because they knew we were coming, but didn't know how many or what we would do, the massive and visible reaction by the military and police forces became a major exposure in itself of the nature of the system the Arsenal defends.

--Mike Haywood,
Disarm Now Action
Group, Chicago



Rape Crisis Center of McLean County

WE'RE A NON-PROFIT VOLUNTEER GROUP WHOSE MAIN PURPOSE IS TO OFFER ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND THEIR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES. FEMALE VOLUNTEERS ANSWER OUR CALLS, BUT BOTH MALE AND FEMALE VOLUNTEERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR CRISIS ASSISTANCE, INFORMATION AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS.

If you want to talk to one of us
Call PATH 827-4005
and ask for the

Rape Crisis Center

Free immunizations

With the beginning of school less than two months away, you should be aware that proper immunizations are essential for children in order to be enrolled in school. The Illinois School Code states that any child entering an Illinois school must be immunized for the following diseases: diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, measles, and rubella.

The McLean County Health Department will hold a child immunization clinic on Wednesday, Aug. 8, 1984, at the Sunnyside Community Center in Bloomington from 9 A.M. to 11 A.M.

All immunizations will be given free of charge to school age children and younger. Parents or guardians must accompany the child and are encouraged to bring the child's previous immunization records.

For more information phone McLean County Health Department at 454-1161.

Don't Drink the Water

The current nitrate level of the Lake Bloomington water supply exceeds 10 milligrams per liter. As a public health advisory, the McLean County Health Department wishes to provide the following guidance:

When nitrate levels exceed 10 milligrams per liter, infants six months of age should not consume drinking water from the affected supply. Under no circumstances should drinking water from such supplies be boiled. Boiling will increase and concentrate nitrate levels.

No other potential detriment to public health is viewed likely by the department at this time. As a public service, the McLean County Health Department provides water sample bottles for McLean residents served by private water supplies. Sample bottles may be obtained by phoning the Environmental Health Division at 454-1161.

Grant for foster parents

McLean County Court Services has received a grant from the Illinois Juvenile Commission to provide a Foster Parents Program through the Juvenile Division. Judge W. Charles Witte helped develop the program. The grant allows for the addition of two staff people, the Foster Care Coordinator and the Intake Officer, respectively Linda Salladay and Lori Tipler. They are working with Roxanne Castleman, Deputy Director, Court Services/Juvenile Division, to develop the program and put it into effect. Kenneth W. Simons, Director of Court Services, will oversee the project and its progress.

This program is for people ages twelve through sixteen who have violated some criminal statute or city ordinance. These are youth for whom secure detention in the Juvenile Detention Facility is inappropriate and returning to their own home may not be in their best interest.

The goals of the program overall are twofold: (1) To provide a more appropriate environment for the youth, and (2) To help prevent juvenile offenders from repeated involvement in the Court system. To help accomplish this, foster homes are being sought to provide an alternative, temporary placement for those youth screened and accepted by the McLean County Juvenile Court Judge.

If you are interested in participating in this Foster Care Program, please contact Linda Salladay at 827-5311, extension 278, or come to the McLean County Court Services/Juvenile Division Office located in Room 104 of the Law and Justice Center, 104 West Front Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Recycle your junk, save local trees

Operation Recycle will hold a regular recycling drive at Eastland Sears parking lot and the ISU Turner Hall lots on Saturday, August 4 from 9am-3pm. Volunteers are needed at each site to help unload cars and sort recyclables.

Volunteers can call 829-0691 (Mid Central Community Action) or simply come to the site on recycle day and offer to help.

Newspapers, tin cans, aluminum cans, container glass and corrugated cardboard will be accepted for recycling. The Operation Recycle buyback of newspapers, aluminum cans and glass will be open at 1100 W. Market from 9am-noon, as it is every Wednesday and Saturday.

For those who miss the recycling drive, recyclables can be left any time at drop off boxes located at 1100 W. Market, 501 E. Stewart St., the K Mart Parking lot (near the big sign) and the ISU parking lot at the NW corner of College and Main.

To prepare materials for recycling: Newspapers should be tied or put in grocery sacks. All newspaper inserts can be recycled, too. No newspaper may be recycled with it. No magazines, mail, school work, etc. should be mixed in.

Container glass should be free of lids and metal rings. Labels may be left on. No window glass, mirrors, lightbulbs, etc.

Tin cans should be washed and have paper labels removed. Aluminum cans should be separated from aluminum foil and pie plates which are also recyclable.

Corrugated cardboard should have packing materials removed and be flattened. Items such as cereal boxes are not corrugated and are not recyclable.

Operation Recycle uses the proceeds beyond its expenses for environmental improvement projects in McLean County. The community recycling center became a full time operation in April 1983. Since then, the amount of recyclables the center processes has tripled.

The dates for future recycling drives are September 15, October 20, and December 1.



Basketball and child control

The Salvation Army, located at 212 N. Roosevelt in Bloomington, will be hosting a gym night for young men between the ages of 13 and 20, on July 31 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The open gym night, which is sponsored by Planned Parenthood's APPLES program, especially welcomes teen fathers. The program will include basketball and information on teen parenthood. Refreshments will be served. For further information call Frank at Planned Parenthood, 827-8025.

Democrats plan fun fair


The McLean County Democratic Party has scheduled a "Fun Fair" for Sunday, August 19, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the Carpenters Hall, 2002 Beich Road, Bloomington (near Howard Johnson's).

Events planned for the day include sports tournaments for softball, mud volleyball, and horseshoes. There will be rides and games for kids, a flea market, a bake sale, and a craft sale. There will also be a pig roast, with \$3 tickets for adults, \$2 for children and senior citizens. Rides will also be available for senior citizens.

A number of booths and events are planned, and a number of current candidates for office are expected to attend. Illinois Attorney General Neil Hartigan has confirmed his appearance, and the invitation has been extended to a variety of national and state-wide political figures.

A fun day for all and a good chance to get informed on issues for the coming election are planned. So come out August 19 for the Fun Fair. If you would like information, or would like to set up a booth or enter a team in the competitions (there is a fee for both), call 828-4368.

VITESSE



College & Linden
Normal Illinois
Telephone
454-1541

College & Linden Normal Illinois

RALEIGH • SEKAI • MOTOBECANE • FUJI • TREK

- Quality Bicycles in All Price Ranges
- Free Service Policy with New Bicycles
- Parts, Accessories & Service for All Types
- 30 Day Warranty on Repairs

American State Bank loses

American State Bank sent letters to all its savings account customers in June announcing that as of July 1 a minimum balance of \$100 was required to avoid paying a penalty. The penalty is \$10 per quarter. That's \$40 a year. So if you haven't got a large savings account anyway, the penalty will insure that you don't keep your small one.

I am absolutely outraged by this new policy at American State. I used to have a savings account there. I closed it two weeks ago. It did not have \$100 in it anymore. The odds of it having over \$100 in the near future were pretty slim. But someday it would have \$100 again.

That's one of the things that makes me mad. My account--and the accounts of all those other people who are strapped right now--will have money again. It seems to be an unnecessary slap in the face for your bank to tell you that not only can't you get a loan, not only do you have to pay for your checks, not only is there a service charge on your checking account, but they don't even want the last remnants of your savings if you can't get your hands on enough big bucks to let hundreds of them lie around dormant for your bank to make money on.

I never feel like a real person unless I have a savings account. I do without a checking account because I have never understood that just because you have more checks it does not necessarily follow that you have the funds to write more checks. But I understand savings accounts--or thought I did. And you add to it when you can, because if it's in the bank you can't blow it on burgers or a movie. It's safe.

But American State wants your money to be safe only if you can afford to take

a hundred bucks and just forget you've even got it. Because if you need that money, or part of it, they charge you \$10.

Mystical and awesome

I have had a savings account at various banks since I was a kid.

There was always something mystical and awesome about walking into the First National Bank of Moline, with all its marble and dark wood, and putting my own 50¢ in my very own savings account. All those 50¢'s bought me my first car. It cost me \$90. I'd had the account for about 15 years.

Bank's business none of your business

American State Bank did contact me about their new policy of charging a \$10 penalty on savings accounts which kept a minimum balance of less than \$100. I was told that the man in charge said that it is not supposed to be public information why they changed the policy and why the service charge was being instituted. I wonder what American State Bank has to hide? I wonder why they can't even have a little rap to give to irate customers? If you also wonder why American State is being so closed-mouthed about policies that affect your money

and your accounts, give 'em a call. Their number is 827-6221.

I would suggest that you be very nice to the people in customer service (which is where you will be referred), because they are generally polite, courteous, helpful, and underpaid. But just demand to know what possible reason they have for charging money for a service designed to make them money.

Again, that number in Bloomington is 827-6221. Go for it!

--Deborah

Phoebe & her phone

Gen-Tel wants lifestyle changes

I'd like to whine for a while about how the telephone company fines me for not quite having my act together. Perhaps they don't realize that just keeping my bill somewhat afloat on the sea of paper on the kitchen table, separating my long-distance charges from my roommate's, writing out a check, getting it in the envelope with the computer card with General Telephone centered properly in the little window, finding a stamp, and putting it in the mail . . . just this exhausts my store of attention to detail for a week.

Now they want me to be able to find my phone book. All the time!

Well, not all the time. Five times a month, I can slip up and call information for a number, but the sixth-and-after times, I pay 20 cents per information call. That's for local numbers. For long-distance numbers, which I can't find even if I chain my phone book to the stove, I pay 30 cents for each after two requests within Illinois and 50 cents for each after two requests outside of Illinois.

Another change Gen Tel would like to see in my lifestyle is that I always have a paper and pencil nearby and a handy, well-organized phone list. Also, it would be nice if I had the kind of friends who didn't move from apartment to apartment. Recently, two of my friends moved and got new phone numbers, and I foolishly squandered my five free local calls by repeatedly asking for these new listings, not immediately writing them on a phone list and keeping them constantly on my person. (I attempted to memorize them, a high-level exercise in self-deception.)

Not free

I asked the service rep at the phone company whether requests for new listings are always free, since such requests are not clearly the result of hereditary sloth. They're not free. If you choose to mingle with

the type of people who move all over town changing their phone numbers, that's your own problem. You'll probably wake up murdered in your own bed one day anyway.

The service rep says that if you request a local number at a pay phone, you don't have to pay for it. So if I were truly fiscally responsible, I I'd boogie down to the gas station to fill my number needs. First I'd have to find my shoes.

If I were blind or otherwise physically incapable of using the phone book, I could have Gen Tel send me an exemption form for my doctor to sign, and I wouldn't have to pay the fines. But if I couldn't read English, I could not get an exemption. This seems a bit rough on newcomers to the country, some of whom, I hear, keep magnificent phone lists in their own language and don't really deserve the phone company's disdain.

Try the library

A resourceful citizen in search of a free long-distance number will try the local libraries, which keep several out-of-town phone books. It's better to have phone pals in or near large cities, since library shelf space is scarce and places like Podunk Junction have to take the dive. If you tend to fall for romantic strangers while traveling and weeks later need to give them a buzz in the middle of a sultry, booze-ridden night, please check their home town population from the outset. And remember to get their numbers from the library during your clear-headed business hours.

If the librarians aren't busy, they may look up a number for you if you just call and ask. Wait! Don't call Information! Don't miserably scabble about for your phone book! Here are the libraries' numbers:

Bloomington Public 828-6091
Normal Public 452-1757
Milner (ISU) 438-3451

Good luck.

--Phoebe Caulfield

THE gallery
111 E. BEAUFORT, NORMAL
452-9192

JULY

Mon. 23	RICH MARGHERIO
Tue. 24	CLARENCE GOODMAN
Wed. 25	BEAUFORT STREET QUARTET
Thur. 26	The OUTNUMBERED (Tentative)
Fri. 27	BUSINESS AS USUAL
Sat. 28	BEAUFORT STREET QUARTET
Sun. 29	OPEN STAGE
Mon. 30	BOB BOGAERT
Tue. 31	JOHN WALSH

AUGUST

Wed. 1 Out Of Order

REDISCOVER
THE GALLERY

interest in small accounts

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August 1984
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When I graduated from high school I was presented with a savings account from the state Bank of East Moline. They gave every senior a passbook with \$2.00 in the account. I never added much money to that account, but it was a good investment for the bank to make. Many of the kids I graduated with still have savings accounts at that bank because it was easy to keep them there.



For The People/CPS

I wonder about those kids in Bloomington who want to have their own accounts, as long as they have somebody who can front the minimum balance. And about those folks who have a bad couple of months and need to dip into their savings--the last thing they are going to need is a bill from their bank.

American State's ad in the phone book proudly proclaims "We believe in you." Clearly that should be changed to "We believe in some of you."

I realize that the cost of keeping up small accounts is as high as the cost of keeping large accounts. The state-

ments cost the same to mail whether there is \$10 in the account or \$10,000. Interest statements for tax purposes have to be prepared whether your earned interest was \$.57 or \$1000.57. The passbooks themselves cost money, and the teller makes the same amount of money regardless of how large the deposits from the day are. Pens cost money, too, and it is probably deadbeats with small accounts who steal most of the pens. Then there's the cost of replacing the pens and typewriter ribbons used up in the processing of small accounts.

No future?

I always knew that banks were in the business of making money. But I thought they had a sideline--making people believe in banks. It would seem to serve their major purpose very well. Apparently American State doesn't believe in the sideline. They also obviously don't believe in the future; either in future big custom-

ers or in the future of banking.

I don't know how much business American State will lose over this new policy. I hope they lose a lot. I hope it is not only the people with small accounts who pull their money out of American State Bank. I would like to encourage everybody with money in American State to pull it out. And tell them why you're closing your accounts. I really would like to start a run on American State.

Perhaps the higher-ups at American State Bank don't believe that poor folks have connections to people with money in their bank. Perhaps they think that if they are very quiet about this action there will be no ramifications. Perhaps they are sure that no one will notice and no one will care.

I have a message for American State: Don't bank on it.

--Deborah Wiatt

A's USED FURNITURE

Buy Sell Trade 829-1912

618-20 S. Lee St. Bloomington
corner Lee & Oakland

GOD! I FORGOT TO RENEW MY SUBSCRIPTION TO THE POST AMERIKAN



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Send me a subscription, \$4
Send me a t-shirt, \$6 donation
XL L M S
is my donation to the Post

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address _____
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I remembered to take out the garbage, leave food for the cat, turn off the air conditioner, pay the telephone bill, and water the philodendron. But all of that means nothing, without a Post Amerikan subscription. My life is empty... I desperately seek thrills and find them all sordid and meaningless...

Don't let it happen to you.

For the next 12 issues, send \$4 to Post Amerikan, PO Box 3452, Bloomington, IL 61702

Do you have information about the Bloomington police?

Dear Post-Amerikan Readers:

Are you or is someone you know the victim of a Bloomington Police Officer's excessive use of force, or the object of racial epithets and slurs by a Bloomington Police Officer? If so, you have a unique opportunity to bring about much-needed reform in the policies and practices of the City of Bloomington.

Alan Mann, Luella Winston and Roderick Mann are Plaintiffs in three separate lawsuits filed in Federal District Court in Springfield, Illinois, in which the City of Bloomington, Illinois, Chiefs of Police Lewis DeVault and Donald Story and Police Officers Thomas E. Sanders, William Rusk and Michael Fazio are named as Defendants.

THE FIRST OF THESE CASES IS SET FOR TRIAL ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1984 IN SPRINGFIELD.

These Plaintiffs have been the victim of physical abuse by members of the Bloomington Police Department. This abuse has not been discouraged by the Chiefs of Police nor the City. Chief of Police DeVault has recently been quoted as saying that Officer Sanders is a "fine police officer."

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is investigating these officers at the request of the District Attorney for the Central Federal District.

Each of these Plaintiffs has either been acquitted by a judge, jury or had the charges against them dropped by the McLean County State's Attorney's Office.

These Plaintiffs need your help in giving information to their attorney regarding the Bloomington Police Department's excessive use of force and racial discrimination.

Please contact Michael A. Barford, Attorney for these Plaintiffs, at (309) 827-5031, or stop by his office at 206 Albert Street, Bloomington, Illinois 61701, or write a letter giving the information you have. Any information, even if it happened several years ago and even if it is about a 'minor' incident is needed.

If you have been traumatized by the Bloomington Police, you may not want to "get involved," or you may not want to have to testify or give a statement. We will make every effort to respect this and use your information to obtain other witnesses to the incident about which you have information.

There aren't many occasions in which a citizen has the chance to do something to bring about a change in society and in a Police Department. You have a chance to do that by assisting these individuals in their suit. If you would be willing to volunteer your time and effort in assisting in this litigation, the Plaintiffs' attorneys would greatly appreciate your help in bringing about justice through this litigation.

I would like to thank you for taking the time to read this and hope that you will call me if you have information to give as we have requested.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Barford
on behalf of Alan Mann, Luella Winston and Roderick Mann

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